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Copters pluck Beduin from flood; 9 dead

Many more feared lost

Jerusalem Post Staff

EL ARISH. — Air Force helicopters and heavy army vehicles yesterday continued their rescue operations for Beduin and local residents made homeless after the rampaging Wadi El Arish turned large areas of North Sinai into a quagmire.

Nine bodies have been recovered so far, and 500 Beduin have been safely airlifted to this town, itself damaged by the floodwaters.

Mayor Yussef Nabi Al Bak yesterday told visiting Defence Minister Shimon Peres that the flooding was the worst in his memory, which goes back to 1914.

About 200 Beduin huts and tents east of here were destroyed by the rising water and the mudbanks left behind. The overflowing stream extended some 200 km. southward into and hits central Sinai.

Mr. Peres, who surveyed the relief operations said: "One hundred and five families have been left without shelter, but there are almost no immediately urgent problems (as the weather is now mild). We are now engaged in repairing homes and supplying food."

The rescue operations were being overseen by a special emergency headquarters under Aluf Raphael Vardi, Coordinator for the Administered Territories.

The Wadi, which was turned into a kilometre-wide yellow river on Saturday night, continued to stream seawards here yesterday, carrying with it bodies of men, sheep, camels and donkeys, along with pieces of wood. El Arish's famous seaside Eucalyptus grove was part of an eight-by-five km. lake, and many of the trees had fallen. There was also serious damage to the bathing beach and fishing boats and hundreds of palms were uprooted.

According to Beduin rescued by helicopter, several of those who lost their lives — some spoke of scores of dead — had sunk in the mud left by the floodwaters. In many cases the helicopter crews had difficulty getting Beduin to part from a beloved camel or donkey and climb into safety. Some who refused to fly were later seen being swept away.

The helicopters were busy all day yesterday bringing injured survivors to hospital here, where the Red Cross was assisting the army with food and blankets.

The waters began roaring along the Wadi late Friday night, sweeping away flocks, huts and trees, and in places had by early morning reached a depth of four to five metres.

The flood reached El Arish town with unprecedented force, breaking the levee and destroying or damaging nearby houses. But Military Government officials, alerted on Thursday, had already warned their occupants to move to higher ground.

Helicopters were in action almost from the beginning. The North Sinai commander, Aluf-Mishne Yitzhak Segev, went on some of the rescue missions himself. Later, visiting some of the 140 rescued Beduin put up in a local school, a Beduin girl he had personally lifted into a helicopter told him she had been afraid when the machine swooped down on her. But after it took off "I felt like a bird flying through the air and it was very good."

DESERT INTO SWAMP — Beduin of the El-Arish area gather driftwood brought down by the floodwaters that washed away their encampments following last week's heavy Sinai rain. (Ippa)

Worst Egypt flood in 20 years

CAIRO (Reuter). — One of Egypt's worst floods in over 20 years yesterday left at least 15 persons dead and 15,000 homeless, but officials believed many lives and much property were saved by the Aswan Dam.

The dam, completed in 1971, prevented worse devastatio in the densely populated Nile towns and villages below the dam where torrential rains washed away thousands of homes.

Without the dam, officials said, the Nile would have overflowed into countless more populated areas, probably with heavy loss of life and property.

Rain falls only a few days each year in the areas of southern Egypt where the floods occurred. Because of the infrequency of heavy rains, few provisions are made for dealing with flood waters. Most of the flooding was caused by rain water pouring from hills on either side of the Nile into the river valley. Entire villages of primitive mud homes were swept away.

President Sadat yesterday ordered an urgent start to building new villages and the government set aside 100,000 Egyptian pounds (IL1.4m.) for the relief of flood victims.

Banias baptism for UN soldiers

GOLAN HEIGHTS. — Twenty-one Peruvian soldiers serving with the UN forces in the Golan Heights were baptised yesterday in the Banias stream.

The soldiers, all of them of Indian origin and from rural areas in Peru, were Christians, but had never been baptized. Nine Catholic priests — including Haifa's Brother Daniel Rufeisen, one of the Israel's best known Jewish converts to Christianity — conducted the ceremony.

After the baptism, the new UN chapel at Camp Bolivar in the Golan Heights was dedicated and a special Mass held. The church was built entirely by the Peruvian soldiers stationed at the camp. Top UN officers in the Heights attended the dedication.

PLO man killed at start of terrorist mission

By YORAM HAMIZRAHI
Jerusalem Post Reporter

SHETULA. — A PLO terrorist was killed on Saturday night in a clash with an Israel patrol after he had crossed the security fence east of Moshav Shetula in the central sector of the Lebanese border. There were no Israel casualties. The terrorist was a member of a larger group, but he was the only one to cross the border. In the exchange of fire, the others fled deep into Lebanon.

The incident occurred at about 8 o'clock on Saturday, when an Israel patrol spotted the group preparing to cross the border into Israel. Only one of the terrorists managed to cross the security fence, before he was gunned down. On his body were found a large amount of explosives, a large electric megaphone, an axe, a Kalachnikov assault rifle, a pistol, ammunition, handgrenades, a sophisticated West German compass, food and cigarettes.

The man, aged about 25, had long hair and was wearing blue clothing very similar to kibbutz work-clothes.

The terrorist also carried four different leaflets, two of them photocopies of hand-written declarations in perfect Hebrew, one in Arabic and the fourth typewritten in French.

The first of the Hebrew leaflets was addressed to Prime Minister Rabin, Defence Minister Peres and Police Minister Hillel. In it, the terrorist demanded the release of five of their comrades held in Israel jails — including Greek-Catholic Archbishop Hilarion Capucci, currently serving a 12-year sentence for gunrunning for the Fatah.

The leaflet showed that the terrorists belonged to Nayef Hawatmeh's Popular Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, the group within the Palestine Liberation Organization that claimed responsibility for the massacre of schoolchildren in Ma'alot last May. It was signed by Kassem Haddad, of the e-Shahid (martyr) Abu Abdu Unit.

The leaflet also demanded that the French Ambassador serve as mediator between the terrorists and the Israel security forces. It stipulated that the terrorists released from Israel prisons as well as the hostages were to be flown to Damascus International Airport. It set a deadline for 4 p.m. yesterday.

It also said that the terrorists "would not allow U.S. Secretary of State Dr. Henry Kissinger, the Enemy of Nations, to carry out his plans against us Palestinians."

The second Hebrew leaflet was addressed to "the people of Israel," spelling out the possibilities of peaceful coexistence with the Palestinians. The Arabic leaflet was written in a similar vein. The French leaflet was addressed to the French Ambassador.

The O.C. Northern Command, Aluf Rafael Eitan, met the sergeant who commanded the patrol, whose first name is Eitan, and commended him on his achievement.

Yesterday morning, IDF units combed the area of the clash on both sides of the border, but made no contact with the terrorists.

Life on both sides on the border continued normally, with both Israeli and Lebanese farmers working close to the border.

Soldier stabbed

A soldier was attacked by an unidentified man as he was waiting for a ride outside Deir Sharaf village near Nablus on Friday — the Army Spokesman said yesterday night. The soldier, who was stabbed with a sharp instrument, was taken to hospital. Security forces are investigating.

Bomb found in J'lem market

Jerusalem Post Reporter

An alert Haga reservist yesterday located an explosive device in the Mahane Yehuda Market. It was safely dismantled.

The reservist spotted a shopping bag filled with vegetables which had been left untended near the Jaffa Road end of the market. He looked into it and saw a suspicious-looking object. A police sapper dismantled the device, which contained 3.5 kilos of gunpowder.

Develop Israel with Israel Bonds

'UN told to prepare for Geneva in April'

By ANAN SAFADI
POST Middle East Affairs Correspondent

A PRESTIGIOUS Egyptian weekly magazine yesterday claimed that the Soviet Union and the U.S. have instructed U.N. headquarters to prepare for reconvening the Geneva Middle East peace conference before the end of April.

The magazine, "Rose el-Yousef," said the U.S. has given way on Geneva after the Soviet Union agreed not to obstruct Secretary of State Henry Kissinger's efforts to reach a second-stage settlement on both the Egyptian and the Syrian fronts prior to resuming the talks. Egyptian officials said Kissinger was expected to present his plan for a second-stage settlement within the next two weeks, after which he is scheduled to visit the region.

Middle East observers discounted the possibility of reconvening the Geneva conference as early as April, noting that achievement of an interim settlement in Sinai was likely to be followed by extensive consultations between Dr. Kissinger and the parties concerned, with the aim of guaranteeing a minimal success for the Geneva talks. The observers could not forsee any resumption of the talks before June, or earliest the end of May, the expiry date of the U.N. peacekeeping forces' mandate on the Golan front.

Cairo's semi-official "Al-Ahram" said yesterday that Egypt has asked the two superpowers, which co-sponsor the Geneva conference, to extend a formal invitation to the PLO to attend the talks.

The "Al-Ahram" report is seen as an Egyptian attempt to appease the PLO, which was yesterday reported to be restless over Cairo's efforts to achieve further partial settlements on the Sinai and Golan fronts.

Syrian Foreign Minister Abdul-Halim Khaddam was said yesterday to have sent a note to the Cairo-based Arab League's Secretary-General asking him to convene a meeting between Syria, Egypt, Jordan and the PLO either tomorrow or on Monday for discussion of their common strategy. The four parties met in Cairo early last month and were due to meet in Damascus last week, but both Egypt and Jordan appeared to have been reluctant to sit with the PLO.

PLO faction admits attempt

POST Middle East Affairs Correspondent

THE TERRORIST unit which attempted to penetrate into northern Israel on Saturday night planned to seize hostages to trade for the release of Archbishop Hilarion Capucci, the Popular Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine claimed in a statement yesterday.

The statement said the terrorist killed was the commander of the unit, "First Lieutenant" Kassem Haddad.

The penetration bid by members of Nayef Hawatmeh's PDFLP may signal the start of renewed terrorist attacks from southern Lebanon into Israel and probably abroad too, observers said last night.

They noted that Saturday's incident occurred after reports of a meeting in Beirut of the leaders of the terrorist movements, which was said to have decided on a large-scale sabotage campaign to undermine U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger's efforts for a political settlement in the Middle East.

The observers expressed the belief that the decision to renew terrorist activity was sponsored by the terrorist groups' roof-body, the Palestine Liberation Organization, in which Hawatmeh remained an active ally of chief Yasser Arafat in contrast to other groups, including George Habash's, which have formed a "protest front" within the PLO. The PLO fears being shut out from the Middle East scene under Kissinger's step-by-step approach to the conflict.

The penetration attempt by Hawatmeh's men seems to conflict with recent reports that the PLO promised Beirut to cease all terrorist activity from Lebanon for three months beginning mid-January. The promise was reportedly given following Israel's intensive retaliatory incursions into southern Lebanon early last month.

$400,000 in gold disappear in flight

TORONTO (UPI). — Canadian police are searching for four cartons of gold coins worth $400,000 that vanished during a flight from London to Toronto.

The coins were part of a 10-carton shipment from a rand refinery at Marshalltown, South Africa, to the Bank of Nova Scotia in Toronto.

Assad: Peace treaty with Israel one day

NEW YORK (UPI). — "Newsweek" magazine reported yesterday that Syrian President Hafez Assad stated for the first time that his country might one day sign a peace treaty with Israel.

"If the Israelis return to the 1967 frontier — and the West Bank and Gaza become a Palestinian state at last — the last obstacle to a final settlement will have been removed," Assad told "Newsweek" in an interview with its correspondent, Arnaud de Borchgrave.

"When everything is settled it will have to be formalized with a formal peace treaty. This is not propaganda. We meant it — seriously and explicitly," Assad told the magazine. "This is not a new logic in Syria's policy, it is our fundamental position, decided by party leaders."

Social security, U.S. style, for Saudi Arabia

WASHINGTON (JTA). — A three-man delegation of U.S. technical experts, all of whom work or have worked for the Social Security Administration, is scheduled to leave Baltimore on Wednesday for Saudi Arabia "to help the Saudi government set up a social security system," "Washington Post" writer Austin Scott reported yesterday.

According to Scott, they will spend three months advising the Saudians along with technical experts from Britain, Egypt and Pakistan.

Saudi Arabia earned $29,000m. from oil sales last year. "In 1973, its national budget was $6,000m. and it was unable to spend half of it," Scott reported.

Cabinet sits late

Jerusalem Post Staff

THE CABINET convened at nine o'clock yesterday evening to continue its regular Sunday morning meeting which had been curtailed to enable ministers to attend the funeral of Mordechai Namir.

Officials said there was no cause for alarm at the late hour chosen for the resumption of the session. Ministers wanted to return from the funeral, rest and eat, before continuing with their work.

Some observers felt that the decision to continue the meeting into the night, rather than dispense with it or postpone it to a more convenient hour, reflected a deliberate effort to demonstrate the vigour and responsibility which the ministers bring to the task of government.

The Cabinet was due to approve various measures associated with the State budget for 1975/76 which Finance Minister Rabinowitz will present to the Knesset this morning.

Together with this budget, the Knesset will receive the National Budget — a forecast of the national accounts (output, investment, foreign trade, etc.) for the calendar year 1975.

Mr. Rabinowitz's budget speech is scheduled for 10 o'clock. This address is traditionally made in the afternoon, but as tomorrow night is Purim, the Knesset will be recessing after lunch.

Meir finds Europe not short of oil

B-G AIRPORT. — Mrs. Golda Meir said on her return here last night from the Socialist International meeting in West Berlin that it was her impression that Europe is not short of oil and "does not consider a possible resumption of the Arab oil embargo." The former Prime Minister told newsmen that the oil crisis appears to have lost its edge, and that Europe has been encouraged by oil discoveries in Norway and the North Sea.

Asked about her meetings with European leaders in West Berlin, Mrs. Meir said that despite recent differences, Swedish Premier Olaf Palme is still a good friend, and despite more serious differences, neither can Austrian Chancellor Bruno Kreisky be regarded as an enemy.

Ceausescu to Jordan

AMMAN (UPI). — Rumanian President Nicolae Ceausescu will visit Jordan in April at the invitation of King Hussein and Queen Alia, an official announcement said here yesterday.

Egyptians seen ready to give no-war pledge

By WOLF I. BLITZER and ARI RATH
Jerusalem Post Correspondents

WASHINGTON. — Secretary of State Henry Kissinger's Middle East shuttle diplomacy is now likely to result in a far-reaching Israel-Egyptian second-stage agreement involving an Israel withdrawal from both the Abu Rodeis oilfields and the strategic Mitla and Gidi passes in exchange for an Egyptian long-term pledge to refrain from resuming hostilities.

This is the assessment that authoritative sources here gave *The Jerusalem Post* following Dr. Kissinger's return from his recent Middle East tour. The State Department is already actively engaged in trying to work out a suitable formula that would answer the three main points which Israel is demanding for such a large-scale withdrawal in Sinai. These include:

- A clear undertaking by Egypt that the agreement will be in force for a long period, at least three to five years.
- A firm Egyptian pledge to abandon the war option and to refrain from resuming hostilities against Israel.
- Concrete arrangements on the ground, including demilitarization of areas evacuate by Israel and limited forces zones, and suitable international enforcement, including Unef, that could not be revoked by either party.

Israel's main demands for political and military concessions by Egypt have been conveyed to Sadat by Kissinger in no uncertain terms, the sources here said. Kissinger's optimism, following his Cairo visit, therefore seems to indicate clearly Sadat's readiness to respond to Israel's demands.

The anticipated second stage agreement will not be linked to any formal U.S. security guarantees for Israel, or any direct undertaking to begin negotiations next on the Syrian front, it is understood.

In an apparent reflection of Washington's assessment regarding a second-stage agreement, Under Secretary of State Joseph Sisco yesterday declared that he was "guardedly optimistic" about the chances of another Israel-Egyptian accord, although he described an Egyptian press report last week that such an agreement was virtually wrapped up as inaccurate.

Appearing on NBC's "Meet the Press," Sisco publicly reiterated what Kissinger had privately told Israel Ambassador Simcha Dinitz on Saturday that any security guarantee could not be a substitute for a basic agreement between the parties directly concerned and that such possible security guarantees by the U.S. would not play any role in the negotiations for a second stage Israel-Egyptian agreement.

Sisco said yesterday that security guarantees would be considered only within the framework of a final political settlement, and could only be supplementary to a direct agreement between the parties.

The Undersecretary, Kissinger's top aide on Middle East affairs, declined to go into specific details regarding the various elements of the proposed Israel-Egyptian agreement, but he did stress that Egypt's demand for another Israel withdrawal and Israel's insistence that it be made only as progress towards peace could be reconciled.

He said that both the Israel and Egyptian governments have to justify the next agreement to their own people, and he added that Egypt would also have to win the broad support of the Arab world.

Asked whether an agreement on the Syrian front would have to follow the current negotiations with Egypt, Sisco merely asserted that additional progress has not been excluded on any front by either the U.S. or Israel. But Sisco refused to state that talks between Israel and Syria would definitely follow.

Returning to the issue of U.S. guarantees for Israel, Sisco said that there is no formal treaty between U.S. and Israel, but he declared that American military and economic support for Israel is "manifest" and on this issue there has not been any change by the administration. "Our support continues," he said.

In response to another question, Sisco said that the existence of the Israel and its economic viability was vital to the U.S.

Regarding the PLO, Sisco repeated the U.S. position that there is no change that Washington will recognize the terrorist organization as long as it fails to recognize Israel's right to exist. He said that there was "no evidence" that the PLO had modified its position and he saw no possibility that it would be brought into the negotiations in the "foreseeable future."

He said that the Soviet Union will have to play a role in the Middle East negotiations. "No peace in the Middle East is possible in the long run without the cooperation of the Soviet Union," he said.

'Pravda': No interference with U.S. Mid-East effort

MOSCOW (AP). — The Soviet Union hinted yesterday that it would not interfere with current U.S. efforts to achieve another troop disengagement in the Middle East on the condition that this would quickly be followed by the Geneva peace talks.

"Pravda," while stating again the long-held Soviet position that Geneva is the only route to a complete settlement, conceded that a partial Israel pullback from captured territories would be a useful thing.

The tone of the commentary in the Communist Party organ lent credence to other reports that the Soviet Union had agreed not to obstruct Secretary of State Henry Kissinger's latest efforts for a partial accord in return for American support in resuming the Geneva conference.

"The first stage of troop disengagement has not changed the general situation in this explosive area, nor has it brought a complete settlement nearer," wrote "Pravda" commentator Oleg Orestov.

"But some circles now picture partial measures as an important factor in stabilizing the situation in the Middle East."

The article did not identify 'some circles."

"Any troop disengagement, or to be more exact, an Israel pull-out from illegally occupied Arab territories, is a useful thing. But this is not enough," added "Pravda," warning that Israel would use a disengagement "for postponing a just settlement."

Cairo parley urges tighter boycott rules

CAIRO (UPI). — The Arab Boycott Office, saying its economic boycott of Israel is more effective than ever before, yesterday called for new, tougher rules to cut off the oil-rich Arab market from firms who do business with Israel.

Boycott commissioner-general Mohamed Mahgoub opened the 10-day meeting of boycott representatives from 17 Arab states with a call to draft new rules to "eliminate the loopholes" in boycott regulations.

Mahgoub said the boycott received a boost after the Yom Kippur War.

He said that "after the war we received an unusual flood of applications from blacklisted Western firms" pledging to sever their relations with Israel if they are allowed into Arab markets.

Javits wants Israel as Nato member

NEW YORK (AP).—Senator Jacob K. Javits (New York, Republican) proposed yesterday that Israel be incorporated into Nato to help bring peace in the Middle East.

He said that the pressure of many nations would be needed to guarantee Israel's security. "I do not see a U.S.-Soviet guarantee as being it. It has to be much broader and involve many nations," he said.

The senator spoke on the WCBS-TV "Newsmakers" programme.

Bentsen calls for protest against economic warfare

NEW YORK (JTA). — Senator Lloyd M. Bentsen (D. Texas), who last week announced his candidacy for the Democratic nomination for the presidency, called yesterday upon the Administration to "speak up now" in public protest against the serious economic threat to Israel posed by the Arab economic boycott.

In remarks prepared for delivery last night at the 67th annual award dinner of Bnai Zion, the American fraternal Zionist organization, Bentsen stated, "Never has Israel been more threatened — politically, militarily and economically."

He said there seem to be too few in this country who realize the dimensions of the economic threat to Israel. "But our own experience with inflation, recession and the Arab oil boycott should serve to emphasize the fact that an economic threat can be as dangerous as a military threat to a nation's natural security," Bentsen stated.

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THE WEATHER

Forecast: Partly cloudy to fair.
Weather synopsis: Weak barometric low over the East Mediterranean.

	Yesterday's Hamidity	Yesterday's Min-Max	Today's Min-Max
Jerusalem	49	8—14	8—16
Golan	73	— 13	4—13
Nahariya	58	10—18	9—19
Safad	49	6—10	5—13
Haifa	59	11—18	10—19
Tiberias	60	8—18	8—20
Nazareth	63	10—16	8—17
Afula	53	5—18	4—19
Shomron	60	9—15	8—16
Tel Aviv	61	10—19	8—19
B-G Airport	54	6—20	6—21
Jericho	48	7—23	7—24
Gaza	76	9—19	8—20
Beersheba	49	6—13	5—19
Eilat	36	12—22	11—23
Tiran	48	14—23	13—24

Social and Personal

Thirty-five American editorial writers, who have just completed a two-week tour of Arab capitals as part of the second "Editorial Conference on the Middle East," were given a reception by the Tel Aviv Journalists' Association yesterday. The visiting journalists also visited the Hebrew University and met with students for a discussion of *topical matters*

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Mr. David Eilat, of the El Al management, was elected president of the Skol Club and the club's new committee held its first meeting at the Hilton Hotel in Tel Aviv on Friday.

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The Jerusalem West Rotary Club will meet at 7 o'clock tonight at the Blue Room of the King David Hotel to hear a talk by Mr. Eitan Israeli, Deputy Director-General of the Ministry of Agriculture, on "Israel Agriculture, 1975."

ARRIVALS

Yitzhak Nebenzahl, the State Comptroller, from a meeting with members of the International Association of State Comptrollers in Zurich (By El Al).

Shinui threat on party loans

TEL AVIV. — The Shinui party yesterday announced it will appeal to the High Court against any attempt to extend loans to settle the debts of the bigger parties on easy credit terms.

Shinui claims that such a move would be illegal and negates the Basic Law-The Knesset, the State Party Financing Bill, and the State Guarantees Law.

The National Religious Party Secretariat decided by a large majority *yesterday to instruct its* Knesset faction to seek such a loan. Three of the NRP's 10 MKs are opposed to the move.

The doubts of Labour's wavering MKs have been similarly overruled by its leadership bureau. Herut's stand in favour of the loans has been unanimous from the start.

S. Y. AGNON, the Israeli Nobel literature laureate, had a street in Jerusalem named after him yesterday to mark the fifth anniversary of his death. Mayor Teddy Kollek paid tribute to his memory at the ceremony held to open the new road connecting the Capital's Katamonim and San Simon quarters with Rehov Hapalmah.

Rabin wants it abolished, Kol says it must stay

DISPUTE OVER TOURISM MINISTRY

Jerusalem Post Staff

Tourism Minister Moshe Kol flatly denied yesterday that the Government is considering abolition of his ministry as part of its drive to cut expenses. But sources close to the Prime Minister insisted yesterday that Mr. Rabin had such a plan in mind.

According to the sources, Mr. Rabin feels that in view of the world-wide slump in tourism, a separate ministry is no longer needed. It was suggested that the Tourism Ministry should become part of the Commerce and Industry Ministry, which has already swallowed up the Development portfolio.

In place of his current job, the Labour Party plans to offer the communications portfolio to the ILP's Moshe Kol. This ministry has been held in trust by Mr. Rabin.

Labour Party thinking is that as the Independent Liberals have been agitating for months now to abolish superfluous government departments, Mr. Kol's party would agree to the idea.

Indeed, sources at the Prime Minister's office made it clear that the ILP's Minister-without-Portfolio Gideon Hausner was among the first to be informed of this design. Mr. Hausner headed the Cabinet committee for reorganizing government departments and has recently complained that his proposal to merge four ministries into two has been shelved. The ministries involved were Social Welfare (NRP) and Labour (Labour), to become a Ministry of Social Services, and Communications and Transport (both Labour) to become one unit.

But ILP representatives hotly contested this argument last night. MK Hillel Seidel protested that his party had only learned of Mr. Rabin's plans for the Tourism Ministry from press reports. In addition, Mr. Kol and ILP Secretary-General Yitzhak Barkai insisted that they had never been approached by the Prime Minister about the matter.

Mr. Kol pointed out that the Hausner committee on reorganizing government departments had found a Ministry of Tourism essential, and even recommended that it be expanded. Among the departments recommended for transfer to Tourism were the Nature Reserve Authority (now in Agriculture), National Parks Authority (Prime Minister's Office), and Youth Hostels (Education and Culture).

In his statement yesterday, Mr. Kol said the existence of the Ministry of Tourism had nothing to do with political considerations, but was required because Israel is a tourist country *par excellence*. He said that in tourist countries throughout the world where no such independent *ministry existed the current tendency* was to create one.

Mr. Barkai rapped the sources in the Prime Minister's office which leaked the tourism story. He spoke sharply against any plan to abolish the Tourism Ministry and said his party would not accept the Communications *Ministry instead*, since they felt it was unnecessary and should be abolished.

Mr. Barkai also revealed that Mr. Kol's name was brought up during the coalition talks as a possibility for the Education portfolio, in view of his long experience as head of Youth Aliya. But Mr. Kol preferred to stay with tourism, he said.

The sources in the Prime Minister's office who revealed Mr. Rabin's reported plans for the Tourism Ministry said the same fate was in store for the Information Ministry. This chair has been vacant since Aharon Yariv *resigned early this month*.

Under Mr. Rabin's plan, the various components of the Information Ministry would revert to their ministries — in the Prime Minister's Office, Foreign Affairs or Education.

The sources put forward this plan despite pressure from Oriental groups in the Labour Party, who were seeking to put one of their men in the Information post. Migdal Ha'emek Council Chairman Zvi Aldorati and Beersheba MK Eli Moyal have been mentioned in this connection. (Leader, page 8).

Ofer orders Amidar probe after arrests

By ARTHUR KEMELMAN
Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Housing Minister Avraham Ofer has issued intructions that Amidar's internal administration be checked. This follows the arrest of officials in the government housing corporation in recent months.

Mr. Zvi Aldorati, head of Amidar's board of directors, told *The Jerusalem Post* yesterday that the company's financial activities were controlled by four authorities — the *company's accounting department*, its chartered accountant, the State Comptroller, and an internal company comptroller.

Mr. Zvi Katz, the company treasurer, was arrested on February 11 for alleged missappropriation of funds.

Mr. Aldorati said that the allegations against Mr. Katz did not concern company funds, but rather the interest from these funds.

Sums were allegedly transferred by *Mr. Katz to a secret fund.*

Mr. Aldorati said that Mr. Katz has promised to return IL800,000 of the IL2m. involved, but refused to disclose the whereabouts of the remainder.

Police alleged that Mr. Katz, who was remanded last Friday for nine days, had used his fund to grant loans to Amidar employees. Mr. Aldorati's name was included among the list of recipients. This loan was for IL15,000. Mr. Aldorati said that until the investigation, he, like some 100 others at Amidar, had assumed that the loan was perfectly legitimate.

Two die on roads

RISHON LEZION. — A Bnei Brak man, Eliahu Bar-On, 43, was fatally injured yesterday morning when his car went out of control on the Ashdod highway near here and overturned. He died on the way to hospital.

On Saturday, Salameh Shwarka, 60, of Khan Yunis, was knocked down by a truck and killed as she tried to cross the main Gaza Strip highway. *(Itim)*

Druse call for equality

HAIFA. — A group of 13 Druse intellectuals, including the presidential adviser on minority affairs, Kamal Mansour, yesterday published an open letter demanding "immediate and unqualified equality" for the country's Druse citizens and warned of "dire consequences" if this is not achieved.

The group, which was set up last week and includes several of the Druse community's outstanding intellectuals, noted the contribution of the Druse to Israel's defence and the fact that they view themselves as an integral part of the State. Notwithstanding this, the *group claims, the Druse still feel* that they do not enjoy equal status with the country's Jewish inhabitants.

The inequality, the group says, finds expression in the fields of economic opportunity, military service, education and Government employment. *(Itim)*

Tourism experts to Costa Rica

The Ministry of Tourism has dispatched two of its experts to Costa Rica in response to the latter's request to Israel for assistance in developing its tourist industry.

The experts, made available through the Foreign Ministry's International Cooperation Department, are Aryeh Efrat, director of Tourism's physical planning department, and Dov Kolani, its legal adviser.

Both men left for Costa Rica yesterday.

Anti-hooligan squad

HAIFA. — The Haifa Police have *established a special unit to fight* hooliganism. The Police spokesman said yesterday that the unit would operate round the clock, but as hooliganism was comparatively rare in Haifa, its duties would be mainly preventive.

The pine processionary caterpillar, several times its real size.

Dangerous pest abroad

By YITZHAK OKED
Jerusalem Post Reporter

RISHON LE ZION. — A caterpillar which causes irritation to human skin and eyes has been discovered nesting near Netanya and in the south of the country. The pest, called the pine processionary caterpillar, causes a rash which burns or itches and may lead to serious eye inflammation and even blindness if a person who touches it later rubs his eyes.

After a worker at the Agricultural Research Organization found the caterpillar nests, a search was begun by the Public Garden Department, which destroyed several dozen nests. Last week, several local authorities decided to battle with the pest on a regional basis, beginning with the northern edges of the Sharon and later extending to Netanya and Emek Hefer. The caterpillar has reportedly also spread to areas it never was found in before, such as Netivot and Beersheba.

One method of exterminating the caterpillar, which can range in length from a few millimetrts. is by spraying forests from helicopters. During the past year, more than 15,000 dunams of pine trees were sprayed.

The caterpillar also causes serious damage to trees, and may even kill them.

'Motti' Friedman denies charge of tax fraud

TEL AVIV. — Oilman Mordechai ("Motti") Friedman, former head of the Government oil firm (Netivei Neft) operating the Abu Rodeis field, yesterday took the stand at the beginning of his trial for allegedly concealing IL2.5m. in income from the tax authorities.

The Government charges that Friedman made the money in drilling operations between 1962 and 1965 but avoided paying taxes by claiming he was still an employee of the firm from which he had bought his rig for $70,000 — Continental of Canada. He is also charged with submitting false documents to the *Treasury, and with obtaining* Approved Enterprise status through fraud for his own Continental oil firm.

Friedman, who resigned voluntarily from Netivei Neft in 1972 following public outcry at alleged scandals there, spent most of his time on the stand denying the fraud charge. He repeated his contention that the $70,000 had only bought him an option on the equipment in 1962, and that the real purchase had been in 1965, for $385,000 (The prosecution charges this figure was *inflated to allow him to buy foreign* currency.)

The background to the transaction, Friedman said, was that the Canadian firm had wanted in 1962 to sell its equipment, which was costing too much to keep. An American buyer asked for an option, but to conceal its identity from the *Arabs, Friedman himself signed an* option, which was renewed. During the period in question, he said, he was operating for the Canadians and thus had committed no offence.

The case is being heard before District Court Judge Dov Levin.

Navy frees Saudi ship from reef

Jerusalem Post Military Correspondent

Israel Navy vessels yesterday afternoon sucueeded in hanling a Saudi Arabia merchant vessel off the coral reef on which it had been stranded in the Gulf of Suez since Thursday.

The ship was apparently undamaged and continued on its way to the Saudi port of Jeddah.

The first attempt to extricate the 1,500-ton ship, on Saturday, failed. Before that the Saudi captain had refused offers of help from the Israeli naval vessels.

The crew of the ship had jettisoned much of the cargo of oranges it was carrying from an Egyptian port to Jeddah in an attempt to free it from the reef.

The reef is in Israeli-controlled waters *in the Jubal Straits, at the* entrance of the Gulf of Suez.

There was apparently no attempt to detain the ship although Saudi Arabia is still formally at war with Israel.

It is believed to have run aground due to the rough seas. The Jubal Straits are about four miles wide.

Youths held on violence counts

Jerusalem Post Reporter

Three Jerusalem youths suspected of acts of violence and extortion were remanded in the Jerusalem Magistrate's Court Friday.

The prosecutor said that the three were suspected of being part of a gang which had engaged in violence, including murder, and the use of weapons in extortion of shopowners.

The three, Eli Amsalam, 21; Uri Duga, 26; and Emanual Atias, 23, were described by the prosecutor as "violent and dangerous hoodlums." Atias was remanded for 10 days and the other two for 15 days.

Grenade thrown at Acre home

ACRE. — A handgrenade, with its pin in place, was thrown into the Old City home of Abdul Rahim Suleiman Remal, 27, at 2 a.m. on Saturday. The grenade, of Israeli manufacture, only smashed a window, *and did not explode.*

The police have arrested three young Old City residents in connection with the incident, which is believed to have followed a quarrel with Remal over drug traffic.

Golf results

CAESAREA. — Yukimsasa Kishimoto of the Untso, playing with Rahamim Sofer of Or Akiva, and Vernon Gad and Meno Ergon of Haifa, *won the Clover Leaf Golf Tournament* here on Saturday with a team score of 13 under par. The runners-up were the team comprising the Australian Ambassador, Rawdon Dalrymple, Berny Cohen of Savyon, and Michael Kaplan and Fay Adler of Haifa.

Michael Derold of Savyon hit a *hole in one on the 185-yard 4th hole.*

Master plan approved for Rafah town

The town planning commission of the Gaza Strip Regional Command has approved a master plan for the town of Rafah which envisages housing estates within the town for families from refugee camps in the vicinity. The plan also calls for beach development, a light industrial zone outside the town and 300 dunams of park in Rafah.

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Draw 68/7
First Prize k
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TODAY IS THE
FOR HANDING IN L
* Subject to rescrutiny

Soldier ch with discot murde

TEL AVIV. — The 2 dier suspected of hu grenade into a Netany earlier this month, ki sons and injuring 26 charged with murder i Court here yesterday. tion asked that he be until the end of his t

Avraham Ezra, of tal in Netanya's Sel alleged to have delib a hand-grenade into t discotheque on Februa been released on ba morning after being h suspicion of threateni of the discotheque. Th charged that about 9 night, Ezra unearthed hid it in his clothing, the discotheque. He friends outside the prosecution alleged, a that he planned to "g the owner of the di reporting him to the

About 10 p.m., Ez *forced his way into th* without paying and s hour and a half at prosecution claimed left the discotheque, the back of the buil on to the roof, bent mesh covering a vent into the discotheque, grenade into the cro

Ezra said soon aft that he had not inter the grenade into th itself, but had only explode on the roof noise."

Two remar Jerusalem

Jerusalem Post R

Two Jerusalem you manded in Jerusalem Court yesterday in co the murder last Thur keeper Avraham Gin shot by a gunman we mask.

The two are Yosef Eliahu Vanonu, 18.

Pakad Mordecai Ve the 18-man police ta ting the murder, told Ben Zimra that a wi ported seeing Cohen rim mask near Gindi's before the murder. Ve description of Cohen by the witness close the murdered given year-old daughter, Ett the store at the time.

As for Vanonu, sa search in his house a garment described as being worn by a the store at the time der.

Cohen was remande and Vanonu for 10 persons who were qu been released.

Sabras tro national s

Jerusalem Post Sport

TEL AVIV. — The Israel Sabras, the A pean league hoopsters, Israel National Squad Yad Eliahu Sports Pa Saturday night.

The taller and mor pros always had the amateurs, now prepa eight-game tour of t month. At one point, stretched their lead t 76:50.

Best of the nationa Barry Leibowitz and T scored 17 and 12 poin Eisner, Boaz Yanai an lan were well held by M.L. Carr was best fo scoring 35 points. Som tators saw the game, cording to amateur ru

U.S. Jewish v here for con

B-G AIRPORT. — A gr 100 Jewish army veter U.S. arrived here with on Friday for an eigh

The veterans headed tional Commander, Jud ner, will hold a conven salem this week and w Rav-Aluf (res.) Haim sident of the Israel Ve ciation, Defence Minis Peres and other public of the subjects they with Rav-Aluf Bashov for the international Jewish veterans schedul salem next year.

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GUESTS INVITE

THE WEIZMANN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE
deeply mourns the passing of
MORDECHAI NAMIR ז"ל
a devoted member of the Institute's Board of Governors
and extends profound condolences to his family.

In deep sorrow, we announce the death of our beloved
Dr. GEORG STRAUSS
after a short illness.
The funeral took place yesterday.
Dr. Miriam Scheuer-Strauss
Prof. Walter Strauss
and families

We mourn for our beloved mother
HERTHA WENDEL
who passed away on February 21, 1975, in Cape Town.
Eric Wendel, Cape Town
Marga Moral-Kendel, Haifa.

With deep sorrow, we mourn the passing in his seventieth year
of my beloved husband, our father
ISRAEL-YAACOV (Richard) MITTELBERG ז"ל
on February 22, 1975, in his beloved Holy Land.
For details of the funeral, contact Hevra Kadisha Netanya
by phone, or Tel. 053/92673
The bereaved family:
Wife, Lena
Son, David, and Shoshana Mittelberg
Daughter, Rachel, and Murray Caplan

Mikhail Stern's son arrives, to continue struggle to free father

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — August Stern, son of Mikhail Stern, who was sentenced to *eight years hard labour* on trumped-up charges in the Ukraine, arrived the small hours of yesterday morning, vowing to continue the struggle to liberate his father.

August, a 30-year-old psychologist and mathematician, came with his wife. They were taken to the Michmoret Absorption Centre.

August Stern said that his father, a physician, still does not know that he left for Israel as he was not allowed to visit him before his departure. He added that he does not know if he will ever again see his father alive.

Dr. Stern's physical condition is so frail that he has no chance of withstanding even a few months of his harsh eight-year sentence, August said, adding that his father is in danger of becoming totally *paralysed unless released from* prison soon. He had undergone a major spinal operation before his incarceration, and prison conditions are badly affecting his condition.

Although he was not allowed to bid his father farewell, Dr. Stern did know that his son had received an exit permit, and implored him to leave the USSR. "I would have stayed by his side, had he not begged me to go to Israel," August said. His younger brother Victor had also received an exit permit *and will soon be coming to Israel* as well.

The charges against Mikhail Stern are believed to have been devised as a consequence of his sons' *applications to go to Israel.* August feels that he and Victor were finally allowed to leave because they had become troublemakers and the authorities wished to get rid of them.

Dr. Stern was convicted of taking bribes and swindling, despite the fact that the prosecution's own witnesses contradicted the police evidence.

The charred interior of a third-floor apartment in Jerusalem's Katamon Tet quarter, gutted last night when a kerosene heater overturned and set it ablaze. The owner of the apartment, an elderly man, was taken to hospital with serious burns. (Rahamim Israeli)

Histadrut reviewing role in price body

By ARTHUR KEMELMAN
Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — The Histadrut's Central Consumer Authority will decide this week whether to withdraw from the government committee *responsible* for raising prices. This follows Friday's meeting between Minister of Commerce and Industry, Haim Bar-Lev and the head of the consumer authority, Mrs. Ada Gilan.

Mrs. Gilan told *The Jerusalem Post* that she would report to the Histadrut's Central Committee on her meeting with Mr. Bar-Lev and further participation in the prices committee would depend on its decision. She was inclined to give the price committee a three-month trial period during which the Histadrut would determine whether the new guidelines worked out with Bar-Lev were being adhered to.

Mrs. Gilan is trying to change the price committee's frame of reference. Last week, she charged that the Government committee raised prices without regard for the profits manufacturers are making. Mrs. Gilan charged that the committee decided whether a price rise was justified solely on the basis of whether various costs had increased.

Mrs. Gilan told *The Post* that the Minister had agreed to most of the Consumer Authority's requests and the committee henceforth would consider the profits manufacturers were making as a factor in their decision. In future, the *committee* would not only determine price increases, but price decreases as well, *in accordance with the world price* of various raw materials. The committee would also have the authority to determine maximum prices to consumers and not just the rate of increase allowed producers.

The spokesman's office of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry told *The Post* that the "new" guidelines were in fact established committee practice, but that perhaps Mrs. Gilan was not familiar with the workings of the committee since she had only recently been appointed to the head of the authority and had not participated in many of its meetings. Mrs. Gilan said that she had participated in three meetings of the committee.

Parties and shows for all as the nation celebrates Purim

By JUDY SIEGEL
Jerusalem Post Reporter

The courage of Esther and Mordechai will be recalled and the name of the villainous Haman drowned out by noisemaking and stamping feet when the Purim *Megilla* is read aloud tonight and tomorrow in most of Israel and the Diaspora.

The holiday, on which even the most staid and devout let themselves go, marks the Jews' deliverance from destruction by Haman during the reign of Persian King Ahasuerus over 2,300 years ago.

Residents of Jerusalem, Tiberias, Safed and other walled cities at the time of Joshua will wait until tomorrow night — Shushan Purim — to begin their merrymaking. The traditional reason for this postponement is that Jews who lived in the walled Persian capital of Shushan were still defending themselves on the 14th of Adar and couldn't rejoice over their rescue until the following day.

Today is the Fast of Esther, commemorating the Jewish queen's ordeal before she denounced Haman to the king for plotting to decimate her people. Despite the fast, many Jews will spend the day busily wrapping parcels of food for *mishloah manot* to friends, as well as signing cheques as gifts to the poor. Youngsters on school holiday from today through Wednesday, will, it is hoped, assist in the baking of *hamentaschen* (Hamans pockets — or, as the Hebrew has it, Haman's ears) in return for their *purim gelt* (money).

Gangs of diminutive cowboys, Indians, Popeyes, Mordechais and Esthers have already appeared on the streets on their way to Purim parties. Through a random survey of toy stores, *The Jerusalem Post* learned that, in accordance with the current belt-tightening programme, more people are devising their own costumes than in previous years. "The sale of costumes is about 30 per cent below last year's figure, but accessories like hats and masks are selling well," reported one Jerusalem store.

Reflecting the eclipsed political fortunes of former government leaders, sales of Moshe Dayan and Golda Meir masks are also on the downswing. But Charlie Chaplin, recently re-discovered by Israel TV, and his derby hat and cane will be a common sight at parties and in the street. Soldier costumes are much less in demand last year, according to one Tel Aviv dealer, "maybe because children, too, are tired of the military situation."

Purim parties will be held during the week in parks converted to fun fairs, youth and community centres and absorption centres throughout the country.

For the first time the Jerusalem Municipality's Youth and Sports Department is sponsoring a joint celebration for the elderly handicapped at Lifeline for the Old and youngsters of the Musrara Quarter. The 1,300 children of the Capital's policemen have been invited to a party in the Edison theatre on Wednesday morning. Food and gifts are being provided by private donors. A troupe of American Indians will stage a "pow-wow" at a party for handicapped children at the Alyn hospital.

Pet birds, cages and books will be awarded to youngsters who look the most like animals (with the help of costumes, of course) at the *Jerusalem Biblical Zoo between 11* a.m. and 1 p.m. on Wednesday.

The Jerusalem Municipality will sponsor Purim "Lunar Parks" in 14 neighbourhood youth centres today and tomorrow. Each will have about a dozen booths at which nominal entrance fees will be charged. There will also be Purim parties at each of the centre. Gifts will be distributed by youths from the centres to needy families in their neighbourhoods. The cost of the Purim events will be shared by the Municipality and the Zionist Council of Israel.

Hassidim from Kfar Habad will fan out through all parts of the country tomorrow morning to distribute 73,000 food parcels they have prepared in honour of the Lubavitcher Rebbe's 73rd birthday next month. The recipients will be soldiers, war widows, orphans, prison inmates and the sick.

Immigrants will munch *hamentaschen* and sing songs at parties sponsored by the Absorption Ministry and the Jewish Agency, and receive the Book of Esther in Hebrew and the appropriate translation.

Nearly 6,000 people are expected to turn up tomorrow for a 28-kilometre Purim march from the Negev Junction to Dimona, where Education Minister Aharon Yadlin will speak.

The police warn the public not to play with fireworks and noise-making toys. Laws against their sale, purchase and use in recent years have dramatically reduced the number of injuries to children. In addition to being dangerous in themselves, the noise-making toys can indirectly result in bodily injury by causing panic, it is said.

One thousand students, 700 of them new immigrants, are expected to take part in a Purim parade organized by the Student authority of the Absorption Ministry in Kiryat Shmona on Tuesday morning.

Children from Kiryat Shmona, and surrounding kibbutzim and development towns, will also take part. A group of 120 children from the Katamonim in Jerusalem will be brought to Kiryat Shmona by the immigrant students, who do volunteer work with them.

Purim at the Brenner School in Kfar Saba. (IPPA)

Ya'acobi plan to double fines for parking

By YITZHAK OKED
Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Fines for illegal parking and for illegal stopping in major traffic areas will be doubled from April 1 if Minister of Transport Gad Ya'acobi has his way.

The Minister told newsmen here last week that from that date he hopes to raise fines for illegal parking from IL40 to IL80 and for illegal stopping from IL180 to IL160 in certain roads in the large cities. In Tel Aviv the streets would include Alia, Allenby, King George, La Guardia and Jerusalem Boulevard. In Jerusalem it would include Jaffa Road, King George St. and Herzl Boulevard. In Haifa it would include the eastern entrance to the city, the Central Carmel and Herzl St.

Mr. Ya'acobi said it is intended that public transport will receive priority on certain streets. In Jerusalem, Jaffa Road will be turned into a one-way street for private transport, with two-way traffic for buses and taxis. Herzl boulevard will be widened to include two lanes for public transport alone.

The plan for making Jaffa Road one-way and widening Herzl Boulevard is only a decision in principle, a Ministry spokesman told *The Jerusalem Post* yesterday. There is no timetable for execution, he added).

In Tel Aviv, Allenby and Alia streets will have special lanes for public transport. Jerusalem Boulevard will have special lanes for public transport during rush hours. Some of these improvements will be initiated on April 1, the Minister said.

Bension gets 12 years, says he will appeal

TEL AVIV. — Former banker Yehoshua Bension, convicted of stealing $47m. from the now-defunct Israel-British Bank while he was its head, was yesterday sentenced to serve a total of 12 years in prison.

The court said there was no precedent in Israel for such a huge theft. Bension, who was found guilty on January 8, was allowed after being sentenced to make a televised statement that he was innocent and would appeal.

The banker, who was arrested some eight months ago, had been convicted on all but one count of a complicated indictment that charged he diverted IBE's funds to concerns owned by the Williams family of Britain, who were major owners of IBB and to whom he is related by marriage. The transfer was made in 1973 and 1974 through the Banque Populaire Suisse and Banque Credit Suisse. Then, at IBB behest, these two banks placed the funds in Williams family concerns registered in Vaduz, Liechtenstein.

To cover up the transfer, which violated limits the Inspector of Banks had placed on IBE credit to Williams concerns, IBB falsified its records and kept the true situation from its accountants.

The court had found Bension guilty of theft, banking-law violations, fraud and currency violations. In sentencing him yesterday it gave him seven years for the theft, four for the banking-law violations, 10 for the fraud and three for the currency violations. But it specified that he serve only 12 years of this 24-year total.

The court on the other hand rejected the prosecution's demand that Bension be fined as well. The bench — Judges Zeev Zeltner, Moshe Beisky and Shulamit Wallenstein, — ruled that the prosecution had failed to prove what part of the $47m. had actually remained in Bension's hands.

The judges also said they were balancing Bension's poor health with the need to deter other offenders. (A panel of four doctors testified before the sentencing that Bension is suffering from several serious illnesses but that he can receive proper treatment in the prison hospital.)

Bension took the verdict impassively, as did his wife, two daughters and other relatives in the courtroom. Unlike the usual run of sentenced offenders, he was allowed after sentencing to speak with his relatives and make his prepared statement to the press. Then, instead of being taken out the special door leading to the courthouse basement, he was accompanied by a plainclothesman to the courthouse cafeteria, where he had eaten throughout the trial. He was seen there apparently trying to calm his wife and daughters. *(Itim)*

Yehoshua Bension

"A PICTURE IS A POEM WITHOUT WORDS."

Horace

A WORD TO THE WISE

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Two on bail after death of wife

TEL AVIV. — The father and brother of Roni Cohen, who is being held in connection with the fatal shooting of his 19-year-old wife, were released on IL1,000 bail yesterday after he had told the police the hiding-place of a weapon. The police said they found a fragmentation grenade with the revolver.

Cohen's wife Ruth was shot through the head on Wednesday while she, Cohen and a woman-friend of Cohen's were together in the couple's Kiryat Shalom flat here. Cohen, 22, initially claimed he had come home and found his wife lying in a pool of blood, but later told the police she was shot while he was playing with his unlicensed revolver.

Cohen's father and brother, Arye and Yohanan Cohen, were arrested on Friday on an allegation of withholding evidence. Cohen himself and his friend, 25-year-old former social worker Rahel Dudkevitz, were on the same day each remanded for five days. *(Itim)*

IN MEMORIAM

Moshe Abramsky, Talmudic scholar

London's Orthodox Jewish community last week lost an able scholar and accomplished conversationalist in the death of Moshe Abramsky, after a long illness, at the age of 63.

Eldest son of Dayan Yehezkel Abramsky, who headed the London Beit Din for over 20 years and now lives in retirement in Jerusalem, working still on his monumental commentary to the *Tosephta*, "Hazon Yehezkel," Moshe received his earlier education from his father in Russia.

He inherited his father's prodigious memory and achieved a broad experise in Eastern European Talmudic literature. Though he naturally shied away from self-publicity and professional scholarship, his knowledge and advice were sought out by scholars.

A catholic and retentive reader, he could hold forth wittily and interestingly on a multitude of subjects, from classical Russian literature to pre-war Zionist politics. He was most amusing on *hassidism*, which, as a staunch *mitnaged*, he publicly reviled — but perhaps privately respected.

Moshe Abramsky was buried in Jerusalem on Tuesday. He leaves a wife and two sons.

Haifa rates likely to go up 25-30%

By YA'ACOV ARDON
Jerusalem Post Reporter

HAIFA. — The Labour-Alignment faction in the Haifa Municipal Council decided yesterday that local rates should be increased by 25 to 50 per cent. This must be approved by the Council, but as the faction has 15 of the 25 seats, acceptance is only a matter of time.

The higher taxation will yield only IL20m. in the coming budget year, a fraction of the inevitable deficit. A sub-committee will now revise definitions of businesses and commercial areas for the purpose of the business tax to boost revenue.

The 1975-76 budget will be increased to IL400m. (from IL270m. this year), and the coalition in the Municipal Council will be broadened to include all members. This was also decided at yesterday's meetings of the Labour-Alignment faction.

The Alignment faction in the city yesterday initialled an agreement with the Likud faction (which holds 4 seats) for the latter to join the coalition. The agreement is based on the existing coalition agreement, which includes the Labour Party, the religious parties and the Independent Liberals. It will allow the Likud one post of unpaid Deputy Mayor, the chairmanship of five council committees and representation on all committees in proportion to its strength at the pools.

Only the Mapam delegate did not initial the agreement. He explained that his party would debate the coalition proposal on Thursday.

The proposed coalition agreement will now go to the Labour Party branch here for approval.

Purim pistol burns girl

NAHARIYA. — An eight-year-old girl was seriously burned at a school Purim party at Moshav Betzet near here, apparently after a spark from another child's cap-pistol ignited her costume. The Government Hospital here yesterday reported that the girl, Michal Cohen of Moshav Goren, was in serious but not critical condition.

The girl had worn a costume, made mainly of cotton wool, to the party, her classmates at the Betzet regional school. The flames spread rapidly in the brief time before a present rolled her on the ground and extinguished them. *(Itim)*

'Fund of the Sons'

Jerusalem Post Reporter

HAIFA.—A fund for Reali School graduates to study at university has been established in memory of students who fell in the wars. Parents of those who fell have contributed to what will be known as the "Fund of the Sons."

At a memorial meeting at Beit Ofaram last week, the headmaster, Mordechai Shapira, awarded 11 scholarships of IL2,000 to IL3,000 to university students, graduates of the school.

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1,100 more beds for Beersheba medical centre

By HERBERT BEN-ADI
Jerusalem Post Reporter

BEERSHEBA. — The new wing of the Soroka Medical Centre being built here at a cost of IL150m. will add another 1,100 beds to the present 630, the Centre's director, Professor Yosef Stern, told newsmen yesterday.

Speaking at a press conference held to mark the 15th anniversary of the hospital's inauguration, Prof. Stern and Mr. Reuven Klinger of the Merkaz Kupat Holim reviewed the Centre's development since it was opened in March, 1960. From a 260-bed hospital serving a population of 50,000, when it was first built, the Centre now has 680 beds, 30 departments and serves a population of some 250,000. The new wing is expected to be completed in about three years.

But the Centre, which is the main hospital serving the Negev area, also has its difficulties. Chief of these is the serious shortage of trained nurses, Prof. Stern said, noting that prospects for the future are also gloomy, with insufficient students registering at the Centre's nursing school.

There is no shortage of doctors, Prof. Stern said. The Centre has held several special 10-month courses for new immigrant doctors from South America, Rumania and the Soviet Union, and many of the graduates have remained either at the hospital itself or in the Negev area.

The hospital's budget has grown enormously in the last 15 years, from IL8.5m. in 1960 to IL55m. today.

Namir laid to rest

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Mordechai Namir, Tel Aviv's fifth mayor, former Minister of Labour and secretary-general of the Histadrut, was laid to rest here yesterday. Many hundreds of Tel Avivians and noted public figures passed by his bier at City Hall to pay their last respects.

Namir passed away early Saturday morning after a long illness. He was 78.

Before the funeral procession left City Hall for the old Trumpeldor Street cemetery, eulogies were delivered by Mayor Shlomo Lahat, Minister of Finance Yehoshua Rabinowitz and Histadrut Secretary-General Yeruham Meshel.

Mayor Lahat recalled that Namir played the violin when he was young, and although later in life he was generally in the company of politicians, his true friends were always actors, musicians and artists. "Many of Tel Aviv's artistic and cultural centres were founded by him," Mayor Lahat noted.

Mr. Rabinowitz, who succeeded Namir as mayor, recalled the torment Namir experienced when, as Ambassador to Moscow, he realized that while he was the symbol of Israel for the many Soviet Jews who longed to come here, he could not help them. "Eleven years ago, however, he predicted that if world Jewry struggled for the Jews of the Soviet Union, the door would open one day," Mr. Rabinowitz said. He called Namir "symbol of the Third Aliya spirit."

Mr. Meshel said that Namir saw himself as the workers' representative and strove to strengthen their position.

Many Government Ministers, Knesset Members, veteran public figures and members of the city's arts community were among the mourners.

Namir is survived by his wife, Knesset Member Ora Namir, and his daughter, Yael.

FOLDING-BICYCLE owners can now take their wheels with them on Israel Railways passenger trains, for an extra charge of IL1.90. The arrangement follows requests from many cyclists, the Railways management says.

Tel Aviv goes festive

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Tel Aviv will revert to its traditional Purim street celebrations tonight. There were hardly any celebrations last year because of the mourning for the Yom Kippur War dead.

This year the city will again be gaily decorated and illuminated with multi-coloured lights. Back again will be live band music in the streets, and special festivities will be held at the Ironi Alef High School and the adjacent Bikurei Ha'itim Street Youth Centre. These two centres will be open to all at 1.00 p.m. on Shushan Purim, Wednesday. There will be an amusement park, entertainment platforms, contests, comic films and folk dancing.

Children whose father fell in the war, immigrant children and youngsters from the Galilee development town of Hatzor will be the city's guests.

On Purim itself, there will be a neighbourhood Adloyada parade by the children of the Hadar Yosef Quarter. The city's youth orchestra will play on the steps of City Hall from 11 a.m.

Tonight thousands of Tel Avivians in colourful costumes are expected to turn out to roam brightly-lit Rehov Dizengoff, as is their habit every year. There will also be festive illumination at Kikar Malchei Yisrael, Jaffa's Sderot Yerushalayim and the Hatikva Quarter.

Pressure group on social issues

Jerusalem Post Reporter

A group of Knesset members and concerned citizens met in Jerusalem last week to form a Public Council for Social Betterment. The Council plans to act as a pressure lobby on the Government on social legislation. It will also try to arouse the public to a greater interest in social problems.

The Council will be independent of all party ties. Among the founding members are Knesset members Boaz Moav (Citizens Rights), Lyova Eliav, Haviv Shimoni (Alignment) and Meir Pa'il (Moked). Other members are the former head of National Insurance, Dr. Yisrael Katz, who now heads the Brookdale Institute of Gerontology and Adult Human Development, Mr. Eliyahu Eliachar, Dr. Ben-Hur Yemini (of the Yemenite Association), and representatives of the Black Panthers.

Court boycotted in moonlighting case

By SARA HONIG
Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Attempts to convene the municipal disciplinary court yesterday to hear the city's request to dismiss two moonlighting employees failed when the employees' union boycotted the court's proceedings in protest at the use of detectives to collect evidence against the two.

The detectives were employed after the court, which is composed of representatives of the municipal administration and the union, had failed to act against the two workers for lack of evidence.

Evidence was subsequently given that detectives followed two workers, saw them punching time clocks at the municipal offices each morning, and then leaving to do private work — one sold insurance policies and the other ran a Toto football pool station.

Both have been suspended, and Mayor Lahat wants them fired.

The union has protested against the use of detectives, saying that it constitutes "prying into the employees' privacy."

The City spokesman told *The Jerusalem Post* yesterday that the matter will now be studied by the City Council's dismissals committee. Its proposals will be submitted to the Council itself, which will vote on whether to dismiss the men or not.

Both are expected to take lawyers and contest any proposals to fire them.

English Theatre putting on Shaw

By YITZHAK OKED
Jerusalem Post Reporter

REHOVOT. — The English Theatre of Rehovot is holding final rehearsals for a production of Shaw's "Arms and the Man" to be presented at the Wix Auditorium of the Weizmann Institute on March 4.

This is the second production of the English Theatre, which last year staged "Our Town" by Thornton Wilder. The theatre was established by a group of immigrants, including many professional actors.

"Arms and the Man" will be shown in Rehovot, Tel Aviv and Jerusalem, with special performances for high school seniors.

Producer David Froehlich told *The Jerusalem Post* he believes that an English-language theatre should be able to fill a 500-seat auditorium in the Tel Aviv area twice a week for three months. He is so convinced of it — despite the collapse of previous English-language theatres — that he is "working full time on the project for a half-time salary." Other participants work for only a token amount.

Handball girls to Tokyo

By JACK LEON
Jerusalem Post Sports Reporter

TEL AVIV. — The national girls' handball team leaves for Tokyo this week to meet Japan in the Asian preliminaries of the world handball championships for women. The two countries will meet twice in a play-off for the right to represent Asia in the finals in Kiev in October.

The special play-off was arranged by the International Handball Federation in Basle after India withdrew from its scheduled two-leg preliminary against Israel, and then South Korea excluded the Israelis from the qualifying tournament held in Seoul. Japan finished first, with a 100 per cent record, in this qualifying pool, beating both the host-nation and Formosa twice.

According to news agency reports from Seoul last week, the International Federation is considering a joint call from South Korea, Japan and Formosa for Israel to be switched from its Asian to the European zone, to avoid a repetition of the complications that have risen this year.

The Japanese Handball Association is paying half the total cost of the Israeli team's trip to Tokyo.

The 14 members of the Israeli squad last Wednesday began the final phase of more than four months of training for the event by entering a closed camp at the Holon sports palace. The girls — all aged between 18 and 22 — are being coached by Alex Broyer. Israel is competing in the women's world handball championships for the first time.

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BANK LEUMI
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Four Subsidiaries of Bank Leumi Group present their Condensed Statements of Condition as at December 31, 1974

(TO NEAREST THOUSAND ISRAEL POUNDS)

BANK LEUMI INVESTMENT COMPANY LIMITED

LIABILITIES	IL	31.12.1973 IL
SHARE CAPITAL	32,967,000	32,967,000
RESERVES AND UNAPPROPRIATED PROFIT	40,388,000	28,847,000
	73,355,000	61,814,000
DEBENTURES CONVERTIBLE INTO SHARES	15,000,000	15,000,000
	88,355,000	76,814,000
OTHER DEBENTURES	1,889,566,000	1,109,718,000
DEPOSITS FOR THE GRANTING OF LOANS	254,723,000	206,331,000
OTHER ACCOUNTS	14,000,000	9,930,000
	2,246,644,000	1,402,793,000

ASSETS	IL	31.12.19 IL
INVESTMENT IN SECURITIES	60,488,000	50,724,
LOANS	810,520,000	470,383,
DEPOSITS	1,367,827,000	875,501
OTHER ACCOUNTS	1,979,000	935
DEFERRED EXPENSES	5,830,000	5,250
	2,246,644,000	1,402,793

OTSAR LA'TAASIYA LIMITED

LIABILITIES	IL	31.12.1973 IL
SHARE CAPITAL	12,267,000	12,267,000
RESERVES AND UNAPPROPRIATED PROFIT	17,004,000	14,497,000
	29,271,000	26,764,000
DEBENTURES CONVERTIBLE INTO SHARES	10,000,000	10,000,000
	39,271,000	36,764,000
OTHER DEBENTURES	1,210,046,000	715,313,000
FUNDS FOR THE GRANTING OF LOANS	119,085,000	29,846,000
OTHER ACCOUNTS	13,147,000	8,011,000
LIABILITIES ON ACCOUNT OF CUSTOMERS (CONTRA ITEMS)	34,747,000	28,479,000
	1,416,296,000	818,413,000

ASSETS	IL	31.12.1 IL
LOANS	358,198,000	223,50
DEPOSITS	822,098,000	498,14
INVESTMENTS	4,700,000	3,295
DEBTORS AND OTHER ACCOUNTS	189,191,000	58,748
DEFERRED EXPENSES	7,362,000	6,250
CUSTOMERS' LIABILITIES (CONTRA ITEMS)	34,747,000	28,479
	1,416,296,000	818,413

YAAD AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT BANK LIMITED

LIABILITIES	IL	31.12.1973 IL
SHARE CAPITAL	6,527,000	6,527,000
RESERVES AND UNAPPROPRIATED PROFIT	9,718,000	7,548,000
	16,245,000	14,075,000
DEBENTURES	1,465,616,000	848,408,000
FUNDS FOR THE GRANTING OF LOANS	196,778,000	181,195,000
OTHER ACCOUNTS	2,764,000	4,341,000
	1,681,403,000	1,048,019,000

ASSETS	IL	31.12.11 IL
LOANS	324,738,000	251,058
DEPOSITS	1,279,491,000	775,414
INVESTMENTS	3,088,000	1,859
DEBTORS AND OTHER ACCOUNTS	69,834,000	17,349
DEFERRED EXPENSES	4,252,000	2,339
	1,681,403,000	1,048,019

GENERAL MORTGAGE BANK LIMITED

LIABILITIES	IL	31.12.1973 IL
SHARE CAPITAL	25,342,000	25,342,000
RESERVES AND UNAPPROPRIATED PROFIT	34,640,000	24,293,000
	59,982,000	49,635,000
DEBENTURES CONVERTIBLE INTO SHARES	20,000,000	20,000,000
	79,982,000	69,635,000
OTHER DEBENTURES	1,522,842,000	788,738,000
DEPOSITS FOR THE GRANTING OF LOANS	718,279,000	499,270,000
SAVINGS DEPOSITS	70,466,000	47,398,000
OTHER ACCOUNTS	118,748,000	53,245,000
	2,510,317,000	1,458,286,000

ASSETS	IL	31.12.19 IL
LOANS	1,268,177,000	792,638,
DEPOSITS	1,190,410,000	630,015,
INVESTMENTS	10,502,000	7,463,
OTHER ACCOUNTS	39,980,000	27,265,
DEFERRED EXPENSES	1,248,000	905,0
	2,510,317,000	1,458,286,0

هكذا من الاصل

Allon to Socialists: Bring detente to M.E.

BERLIN (AP). — Israeli Foreign Minister Yigal Allon appealed yesterday for Europe to include the Middle East in future efforts at detente.

He again rejected the Palestine Liberation Organization as a partner in peace discussions but emphasized that any peaceful Middle East solution must take up the question of the identity of the Palestinians.

Allon said that while Israel must be able to defend herself, international guarantees could be useful, adding that so far none had been offered that he knew of.

He told a West Berlin news conference that detente was good for Europe and good internationally, but added: "As a citizen of the Middle East... I would like to warn your friends in Europe that unless such a detente is also applied to the Middle East, then I doubt its value very much."

"Our European friends can render us an indispensable service by insisting that detente should also include the Middle East. Otherwise it is strategically meaningless. This may even be more important than political guarantees," Allon stressed.

The news conference concluded a weekend meeting in West Berlin of the leadership of the Socialist International.

Former West German Chancellor Willy Brandt, head of the German Social Democrats and host to the conference, had declared the conference agreed that detente between East and West must be pursued further.

Concerning the Middle East, Brandt said the conference unanimously expressed a wish to contribute to a solution, to see what can be done to guarantee the viable existence of Israel as well as make possible cooperation with all the peoples and states in the region.

Brandt said the conference viewed the latest efforts by Secretary of State Henry Kissinger in a positive way.

In response to a question, Allon said Kissinger probably would return to the Middle East in the second week of March in an attempt to mediate an interim agreement between Israel and her neighbours. Allon said he was happy that the European Social Democrats share the Israeli view that a step-by-step approach to a solution is desirable.

Asked specifically if he envisioned a formal American guarantee for Israel or a military alliance as has been rumoured as a consideration, Allon replied: "I do not accept any guarantees unless Israel is capable of defending herself... Of course an understanding of all possible important countries in the world can help to create a political situation which will make another war impossible or at least less feasible."

Israel, Allon stressed, would do its best contribute to achieving the important goal of an interim agreement from which other steps could follow.

"As we indicated, Israel's readiness to withdraw from the present line along the Suez Canal will be greatly influenced by the nature of Egyptian return, political and strategic," Allon added.

Brandt was asked if it were true that Austrian Chancellor Bruno Kreisky and former Israeli Premier Golda Meir had clashed during Saturday's discussions on the Middle East question. Brandt evaded a direct answer by saying there had been a very open exchange but that it took place with each respecting the other's opinion.

News conference of the Socialist International at the West Berlin City Hall yesterday. Left to right, Foreign Minister Yigal Allon, Fred Mulley of Britain, Gary Fitt of Northern Ireland and Antonio Cariglia of Italy. (AP radiophoto)

Ethiopian bid to break stranglehold on Asmara

ON THE ERITREAN BORDER (UPI). — Ethiopian warplanes and artillery blasted Eritrean rebel positions north of Asmara yesterday in an attempt to break a guerrilla stranglehold on the provincial capital.

The government claimed its troops killed more than one-third of the 6,000 rebels in the embattled province since widespread fighting began 24 days ago.

In Asmara, soldiers began a tough security crackdown at the international airport and reportedly detained one Western diplomat and physically searched passengers.

No immediate reason was given for the increased security measures but they coincided with reports that the Minister of Health, Gemel Addul Kadir, had fled. The minister is an Eritrean and a Moslem.

After a day of minor skirmishes in Eritrea province on Saturday, the army resumed the offensive against rebels yesterday, blasting guerrilla positions on the northern outskirts of Asmara.

According to witnesses, American-built warplanes bombed positions near Adi Cushet, six kms. northwest of Asmara.

Artillery on the city's golf course, near the now virtually deserted American communications facility in the city, pounded other areas around Asmara.

There were some light small arms firing and minor ground skirmishes near the American facility. The witnesses said the fighting lasted for several hours and continued into the afternoon. Some fighting was also reported further north of the city on the main road to the town of Keren, where troops and rebels have been battling for several weeks.

The army apparently was trying to break a tightening encirclement of the city by the guerrillas. In statements from Beirut, the rebels have said they will knock out strategic installations in Asmara airport as soon as they get supplies which are en route via Sudan and the Red Sea.

Airline oficials in Addis Ababa said at least six flights daily — full of troops, police and ammunition — were being flown by the government to Asmara to reinforce the garrison.

In its first full statement on the situation, the government during the weekend claimed its troops killed 2,321 rebels and wounded 324 guerrillas while suffering only 87 killed and 188 wounded. According to this report 124 civilians were also killed.

Independent military observers were sceptical, pointing out if the figures were accurate, it meant the army had probably broken the back of the rebellion because of the intolerable rebel losses. One observer suggested the army-guerrilla ratio of killed might be more accurate if it was reversed in favour of the Eritreans.

Greek Cypriot refugees ask UN to prevent seizure of their homes

NICOSIA (AP). — Greek Cypriot refugees appealed to the United Nations yesterday to prevent the seizure of their homes by mainland Turks brought by the Turkish Government for settlement in the Turkish occupied part of the island.

The protest was made by the Pan-Cyprian Refugee Committee, which represents the 200,000 Greek Cypriots forced to abandon their homes as a result of the Turkish invasion and occupation of nearly half the island last summer.

In a cable to UN Secretary General Kurt Waldheim, the refugee committee declared:

"We report with resentment the transfer of thousands of Turks from the Turkish mainland and their settlement in the parts of Cyprus occupied by the Turkish army, the granting of citizenship rights to them with the objective of changing the demographic structure of the island, and the seizure of the homes and properties of the violently displaced Greek inhabitants."

Earlier this month the legislative assembly of the unilaterally proclaimed, separate Turkish Cypriot state approved a law extending Cypriot citizenship rights to the 40,000 troops of the Turkish invasion force, and their families, as well as the right to settle in the Turkish-occupied part of the island.

Turkey is refusing to allow any of the Greek Cypriot refugees to return to their homes in the occupied area.

In New York, Mr. Waldheim conferred late on Saturday with Glafkos Clerides, Speaker of the Cyprus House of Representatives, amid diplomatic consultations aimed at resuming peace talks between the Greek- and Turkish-Cypriot communities.

Negotiations between Clerides and his Turkish Cypriot counterpart, Rauf Denktash, were broken off when the Turkish Cypriots announced the new state in Cyprus.

The Security Council, summoned into session by Cypriot President Archbishop Makarios, remained in recess over the weekend after meeting on Thursday and Friday. Talks will resume today.

Mr. Waldheim told the Council that reactivation of the inter-communal talks remained the best hope for peace on the island, but said that a new framework would have to be found.

Sources said Waldheim would like to have the talks transferred from Nicosia to some European city and add some new participants — Greece, Turkey and, in the early stages, the Secretary-General himself.

'Amin was hurt in car ambush'

LONDON (AP). — Uganda President Idi Amin was slightly wounded in a (previously reported) assassination attempt on February 1, the "Observer" said yesterday, quoting "reliable sources" in Kampala.

Amin was hit in the upper left arm by a bullet or flying glass and was treated for the wound at home, the paper reported. Its account said:

"He was travelling in the last of three cars at 10 p.m. when they were ambushed... The first two cars, including a Mercedes 280, were completely destroyed, a number of occupants killed and wounded.

"Gen. Amin apparently suspected his wife, Madina, of tipping off the assassins, and sources say she was viciously beaten by him and has a fractured jaw and other injuries."

The "Observer" said the woman now was under guard at the Mbuya Military Hospital in Kampala.

Hijacker in Brazil airport shot dead

BRASILIA (Reuter). — Security men disguised as mechanics tricked a bearded hippie hijacker and shot him dead aboard a Boeing 737 airliner at Brasilia airport. The hijacker, identified as Joel Siqueira, had boarded the plane at Goiania on its flight from Sao Paulo to Brasilia on Saturday. *(Briefly reported in "After Midnight" yesterday.)*

At Brasilia, police handed over a 10m. cruzeiros (IL7.7m.) ransom to the hijacker, who released the women and children among the 72 people aboard the plane.

Four security men then sneaked aboard the airliner while it was being refuelled.

One of the jetliner's hostesses volunteered to drop an object in front of the hijacker. As he stopped to pick it up, the security men opened fire and hit the man in the chest and head.

The pilot of the plane was wounded in the hand during the firing.

Apart from the ransom, the hijacker, aged about 30, demanded the release of 10 political prisoners and the broadcast of a manifesto which included references to Christ, Leonardo da Vinci and Julius Caesar.

Temples and towers adjacent to Katmandu's Hanuman Dhoka Palace are ablaze with lights in advance of the coronation of Nepal King Birendra Bir Bikram Shah Dev today. (AP radiophoto)

Mud from a harlot's door to 'cleanse' Nepal's King

KATMANDU. — The absolute rule of this mountain kingdom, in the final rite leading to his coronation, offered sweets and holy water to his ancestors yesterday to call for blessing on his all-powerful reign.

King Birendra Bir Bikram Shah Dev, the world's only Hindu monarch, also worshipped Mars, Jupiter and other planets, as priests invoked the deities for the success of his coronation early this morning.

The King offered a sacred cow to the priests and burned rice, barley and wheat to propitiate his Hindu gods in the ceremony held in an inner courtyard of his Shah Dynasty's carved-wood Hanuman Dhoka Palace.

Birendra, 29, swished up Katmandu's main street in a closed black limousine preceded and followed by mounted lancers on his way to the four-hour-long ritual. His route was heavily guarded by armed soldiers who kept Nepalese off the streets and away from the 200-year-old ceremonial palace.

The most important coronation rituals were to take place before dawn today when Brahmin priests smear the King with mud from 12 locations including a mountaintop, an anthill, a harlot's door and elephant, horse and cow stables. These muds are believed to contain cleansing properties.

The King, who studied at both Eton and Harvard University, will then be annointed with clarified butter, milk, curd and honey to ensure his vigour and glory.

High priests will place the crown, encrusted with diamonds, pearls, rubies and emeralds and plumed with rare Bird-of-Paradise feathers, on the King's head before an assembly of royalty and statesmen from 58 nations.

A few of the 300 foreign dignitaries — among them Prince Charles of Great Britain — will ride the 30 royal elephants in a procession filled with medieval pomp and pageantry across the city. *(AP, UPI)*

Scotland Yard crack down on sex-on-sale

LONDON (AP). — Scotland Yard said the police have raided more than 30 offices and homes around London in a bid to smash a vice racket that provided girls for Arab oil sheikhs and other wealthy men.

Twenty persons, including two women, were held for questioning by the Yard men who included officers from the elite Special Crimes Squad and the special patrol group, the Police Commandos.

A Scotland Yard spokesman said more raids were planned after documents seized in Friday's swoops had been analyzed. Detectives said hundreds of girls, including international models, were being questioned about the sex-for-sale racket that police believe is linked to organized crime in Britain and other countries.

Main target of the raids was a string of escort agencies which provide girl companions for visiting oil sheikhs and other businessmen. Police took carloads of documents from one agency in London's high-life West End quarter.

Thatcher urges inquiry on leaks about Queen's fortune

LONDON. — Conservative leader Margaret Thatcher made her first major challenge to Prime Minister Harold Wilson on Saturday, demanding an inquiry into leaks of government documents involving the royal family's private fortune.

Mrs. Thatcher's action followed publication of a story in the Communist Party paper "Morning Star" alleging that the past Conservative government and Buckingham Palace conspired to hush up details about the Queen's holdings. The paper claimed it has photostats of documents revealing a cover-up plan, and published extracts from two of them.

Mrs. Thatcher said she has written to Wilson asking for an inquiry. "If any leak has occurred it has serious implications for the conduct of government business," she added.

Wilson's office said earlier it cannot comment on the allegation because it does not have access to the past administration's papers.

According to the "Morning Star," a formula was devised in a companies bill exempting the royal family from declaring its private shareholdings in industrial companies. The bill, designed partly to reveal shareholdings to help clean up big business practices, had not been passed when the Conservatives were ousted a year ago and never became law.

The "Morning Star's" report came at a particularly embarrassing time for Queen Elizabeth. Wilson announced recently that her civil list — the state allowance she receives to cover the costs of her official duties — is being raised from £980,000 (IL 13,720,000) to £1.4m. (IL19,600,000).

The announcement incensed several MPs in Wilson's own party. They sought a debate, to be held on Wednesday, to try to learn more about the royal finances.

She privately owns two large estates at her country homes of Sandringham and Balmoral, though Buckingham Palace says almost all the profits from these are ploughed back in land improvements. No reliable estimate has ever been made of her private shareholdings.

Twenty-seven persons died in this rail crash, Norway's worst, when two express trains collided head on about 30 kms. north of the ski resort of Lillehammer on Saturday. Most of the 800 passengers were ski vacationers. (AP radiophoto)

Spanish paper made to cut interview with royalty

MADRID (UPI). — Authorities yesterday forced the monarchist newspaper "ABC" to cut from its edition an interview with the head of the Spanish royal family, sources at the publication said.

In the interview, Count Juan of Barcelona supported democratization of Spain and warned that slowing this process would be a "tremendous" and very costly error.

The sources said the editors were told the Sunday edition would be seized if it hit the streets with the interview.

They said that, as a result, employees stripped off the usual two-dozen-page picture section where the article was printed. The tabloid-style daily was delivered to news stands and subscribers with only the pictureless inner news section.

Count Juan is the head of the Spanish royal family and father of Prince Juan Carlos, whom Generalissimo Francisco Franco has picked as his eventual successor and future King of Spain.

According to a copy of the interview made available by monarchist sources, Count Juan told "ABC":

"The nation ardently desires democratic reform... The important thing is that the Spanish public becomes aware that efforts to perpetuate the system and to curtail the political activity of the new Spanish society... would constitute a tremendous historical error for which Spain would have to pay very dearly."

Juan, 62, is living in exile in Portugal. He has never seen eye to eye with Franco and he said he still considered himself the pretender to the vacant Spanish throne when Franco picked Juan Carlos as Spain's future king five years ago.

Grechko to India on military aid project

By TREVOR DRIEBERG
Jerusalem Post Correspondent

NEW DELHI. — Defence Minister Andrei Grechko arrives here today at the head of a team of high-level defence experts. His visit is expected to lead to an agreement on Soviet technical aid in building a wide range of sophisticated military hardware in India for the Indian defence forces.

Grechko will stay here for three days during which he will talk with several members of the Indian Government including Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. In the 16-member delegation he leads are the commanders-in-chief of the Soviet Navy and Air Force, Admiral S.G. Gorshkov and Chief Air Marshal P.S. Kutakhov.

About a dozen senior technical experts preceded the delegation to draft an agreement on Soviet support for India's urgent requirements for defence production. The pact Grechko is expected to sign before he returns to Moscow will have a significant air and naval bias," says the pro-Soviet newspaper "Patriot" in New Delhi.

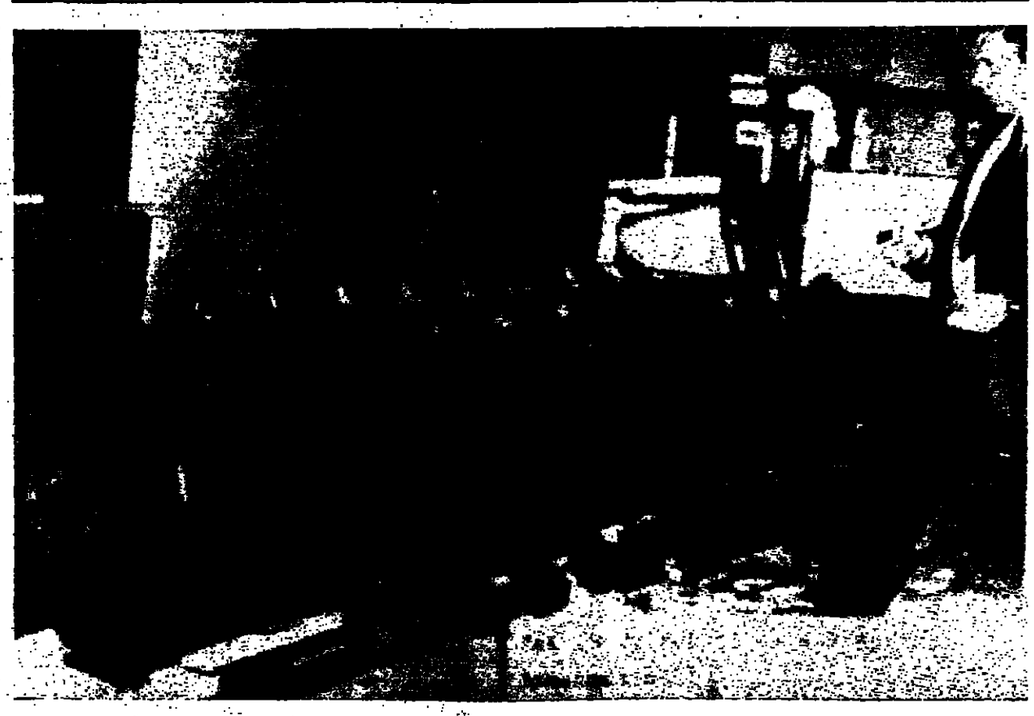
It says the Indian Air Force has long felt the need for a deep-penetration fighter-bomber to replace the obsolete Canberra. It also says the Indian Navy needs a "proper mix" of submarines and surface craft to develop the two naval commands in the Bay of Bengal and the Arabian Sea and the southern naval area into "effective sea control forces."

The reported U.S. decision to renew supplies of arms to Pakistan is expected to figure prominently in the talks, the news agency United News of India reported yesterday, quoting informed sources.

Official Indian sources here deny that the visit of the Soviet delegation and a formal announcement of the lifting of the U.S. arms embargo, expected this week, is more than coincidence. Marshal Grechko's visit was arranged several months ago, they explained, but the impact of the American decision was bound to figure in the talks because it impinged on India's security.

The growing presence of the U.S. Seventh Fleet in the Indian Ocean and Washington's attempt to establish air and sea bases in the ocean region are also expected to be discussed. India's military priorities may be reviewed in the light of these developments, says the "Hindustan Times." It quoted and Indian official as saying: "We are certainly not going to keep quiet."

"Patriot" quoted informed sources for the information that the recent proposal of some littoral states to create an Indian Ocean navy would also be discussed.



This Soviet underwater detection device was one of two found on Iceland's southern coast. It weighs over a ton, is equipped with 32 hydrophones and bears inscriptions in Russian. The devices were found last Thursday. (AP radiophoto)

Moscow jacks up oil price to satellites

VIENNA (Reuter). — The Soviet Union has enforced massively higher prices for oil sales to Eastern Europe, with Hungary disclosing yesterday that its 1975 petroleum bill is going up by 130 per cent.

Other Soviet bloc governments have confirmed that Russia is asking considerably higher prices, but only Hungary so far has announced that the cost is rising from about 16 to 37 roubles ($21.50 to $49.50) per ton.

Because of price coordination, the new rates will be similar for all Soviet bloc countries, apart from slight freight variations, economic analysts said. There has been no announcement from Moscow.

The Hungarian Communist Party newspaper "Nepszabadsag," in a full-page article explaining the Soviet bloc's new pricing structure, confirmed it was being put into effect from 1975, 12 months earlier than previously scheduled price changes.

Higher costs to keep pace with rising world prices were anticipated in the East European five-year plans due to start in January 1976. But there was no official warning that prices would be raised one year in advance, analysts said.

It is highly unusual for the Soviet Union to scrap existing price rates for its East European allies outside the framework of the five-year plan pricing system.

The Soviet Union — the world's largest oil producer — has contracted to deliver 50.3 million tons to Eastern Europe this year, 27 per cent more than in 1974.

The figure given by the Hungarians suggests Soviet prices still average $29 a ton less than the average sales price at Middle East terminals, $78.50 a ton.

"Nepszabadsag" said Russia was granting Hungary special 10-year credits on favourable terms, starting this year, to help pay the higher oil bill. Other Soviet raw material prices are also being increased.

As further compensation, the Soviet Government has agreed to pay some higher prices for machinery and light industry products bought from Eastern Europe.

'Auxicops' difficult to recruit in New York City

By AARON SITTNER
Jerusalem Post Reporter

NEW YORK. — Tel Aviv, Haifa and Jerusalem are not the only cities experiencing difficulty in raising a *mishmar ezrahi*, volunteer civil guard. This great metropolis — with a population of some eight million — has barely managed to recruit 5,674 men and women into its Auxiliary Police Corps.

The auxicops, as they are known, come from all walks of life. They are doctors and lawyers, construction workers and housewives, doormen and clerks. They all have a common aim: to help keep the city's crime rate down.

Working without pay, they patrol the streets in pairs or with regular policemen. Some ride the rivers with the Harbour Precinct, keeping an eye out for night-time pier looters and rapists. Other auxicops do scooter patrol or clerical work at the police stations, and sometimes man the phones there.

The largest contingent of volunteers are assigned to the Central Park Precinct in Manhattan, which is one of the city's busiest. Once New York's favourite outdoor meeting place, Central Park is now a human jungle, a place for any sane person to avoid, day or night.

Marvin Dubin, a television producer who has been an auxicop for several years, said: "Our job is not to effect arrests. We notify the police of a crime that we spot or anything of a suspicious nature."

Auxicops wear blue police department-type uniforms and carry nightsticks. None of them is allowed to carry a gun. Among their assigned duties are patrols outside houses of worship and children's playgrounds (to watch for child molesters) and being present at "trouble spot" bus stops after dark, to escort women home through hazardous streets.

They also look for stolen cars, check to see if shops are properly locked and generally assist citizens in trouble.

To qualify for the Auxiliary Police you must be a U.S. citizen between 17 and 55, work or live in the city, and be at least five feet tall (five feet for women.)

With so relatively few of the volunteer lawmen around, you don't get to see them often. One day last week, however, I encountered an auxicop in a coffee shop on Lower Broadway, near Bank Leumi's investment securities office.

The auxicop — a long-haired young man leisurely puffing his pipe — was sitting at the horseshoe counter waiting for his coffee, along with a dozen other men, most of them workers in the financial district.

A middle-aged man who was apparently disturbed mentally, entered the shop and, instead of taking a seat, began to harangue the customers with sundry racial and religious slurs. No one paid any attention to him as he cried, "They ought to build a new wing at Sing Sing (the state penitentiary) just to house all those Jews who run those nursing homes..."

After a few minutes the auxicop rose from his stool and gently escorted the man out the door.

TWO-IN-ONE CROSSWORD

Use the same diagram for either the Easy or the Cryptip puzzle.

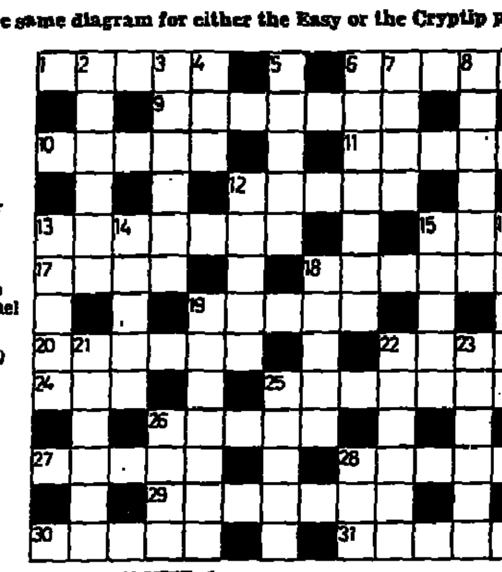
EASY PUZZLE

ACROSS

1 Stage play (5)
6 Evade work (5)
9 Silly (7)
10 Banners (5)
11 Get up (5)
12 Musical speed (5)
13 More fat (7)
15 Sorrowful (3)
17 Period (4)
18 Abuse (6)
19 Plunged (5)
20 Worn with use (6)
22 Ring (4)
24 Enjoyment (3)
25 Sausage (7)
26 Chilly (5)
27 Backless seat (5)
28 Holy man (5)
29 Given to weeping (7)
30 Behaved (5)
31 Borders (5)

DOWN

2 Recount (6)
3 Champagne bottle (6)
4 Idiot (3)
5 Wrath (5)
6 Spoke sharply (7)
7 Leading man (4)
8 Scamp (6)
12 Lukewarm (5)
13 Office personnel (5)
14 Musical instrument (5)
15 Fibre (5)
16 Lure (5)
18 Broadcast (5)
19 Sullied (7)
21 Rural (6)
22 Messenger (6)
23 Loll (6)
25 Recreation (5)
26 Memorandum (4)
28 Prosecute (3)



CRYPTIC PUZZLE

ACROSS

1 Maybe carps a bit (5)
6 Difficult to beat up? (5)
9 Go slowly in a set run (7)
10 Bash a hole in? (5)
11 Too fat for much fighting? (5)
12 Central pump (5)
13 Dog stick? (7)
15 Girl with no noes in Italy! (3)
17 He's on the way with some cattle (4)
18 Sound fruit, Jack (6)
19 Keep clear of a hole (5)
20 In the confusion, Nat breaks a leg (6)
22 Three men, initially two (4)
24 Flying visits, as in Lancaster or Halifax (3)
25 Number of divers (7)
26 Old Bob Hall's will (5)
27 Thousand-song girl (5)
28 Bird with wooden leg? (5)
29 Politician written in Braille (7)
30 Area of pretty, rolling country (5)
31 Is she so cheap? (5)

DOWN

2 Robinson, of course (6)
3 Rise to a bit of a crescendo (6)
4 Impatient noise heard from Dad (3)
5 Inferior red 'un, maybe (5)
6 Like the ranks of the hard-pressed? (7)
7 Turkey run? (4)
8 Driving enthusiast on an American circuit (6)
12 Have to go out East in a tug (5)
13 Picture that makes one hoot on the quiet? (5)
14 Does evening work (5)
15 Defamation of mares? (5)
16 Creatures with broken nails, perhaps (5)
18 Write a wrong! (5)
19 Quite an icy greeting! (3-4)
21 Where to produce honey by monkish methods? (6)
22 Ardent (possibly mercurial?) temperament (6)
23 Quantity larger than the whole! (6)
25 Be unaware of lying? (5)
26 You'll find Lois in the pit (4)
28 He's wet (3)

Friday's Easy solution

ACROSS.—3, Dwarf. 8, Padre. 10, Aroma. 11, Rob. 12, Crone. 13, Noticed. 15, Cello. 18, Tar. 19, Tidied. 21, Nettled. 22, Over. 23, Deal. 24, Disdain. 26, Hidden. 30, Hid. 31, Styes. 32, Riddles. 34, Vital. 35, Log. 36, Choir. 37, Petal. 38, Level.
DOWN.—1, Baron. 2, Arbiter. 4, Ward. 5, Rancid. 6, Freed. 7, Smile. 9, Dot. 12, Certain. 14, Cat. 16, Liken. 17, Oddly. 19, Tendril. 20, Moths. 21, Needy. 23, Diddled. 24, Desire. 25, Aid. 27, Itchy. 28, Devil. 30, Legal. 32, Rage. 33, Lot.

Friday's Cryptic solution

ACROSS.—3, Cap-on. 8, Pilot (scheme). 10, Liver. 11, Nap. 12, Magic (Circle). 13, Lady Day. 15, V-Ee-L. 18, Car. 19, Cerise. 21, Rancher. 22, E-yot. 23, Rove. 24, Rent man. 26, CL-ever. 30, Rum. 31, Hired. 32, Jam Puff. 34, I-Deal. 35, Art. 36, Se-in-e. 37, Knees. 38, Snake.
DOWN.—1, Dinar. 2, Copy-cat. 4, A-way. 5, O-liver. 6, N-icer. 7, D-eca-s. 9, L-ad. 12, Marcher. 14, D-an. 16, Nix-on. 17, Lever. 19, Central. 20, Teach. 21, Rover. 23, Ram-pant. 24, Red-den. 25, Mum. 27, Lines. 28, Veins (vanes). 30, Of-ten. 32, Jack. 33, Ure.

SOLUTIONS TO TODAY'S PUZZLES ON WEDNESDAY

FERDINAND

ON THE AIR

HEBREW NEWS AND NEWSREELS

1st Programme: News: 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00 p.m., 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 10.00, 11.00 and midnight.
Newsreels: 7.05 p.m.
2nd Programme: 6.05 a.m., 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00 p.m., 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, midnight, 1.00 a.m. Newsreels: 7.05 a.m., 1.05 p.m.
Galei Zahal: News: 6.00 a.m., 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00 p.m., 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, midnight, 1.00 a.m., 2.00, 3.00, 4.00 and 5.00.
Newsreels: 8.05 a.m., 12.05 and 5.05 p.m. and 12.05 a.m.

FIRST PROGRAMME
256, 533 and 221 M.

7.58 a.m. Opening. 8.10 "Famous Artist." 9.05 Popular Classics. 10.05 Milhaud — Viola Sonata (Steinberg-Neumark); Schubert: "Der Hirt auf dem Felsen" (Grossmeyer); Schumann: "Fairy Tales" (Lesser, Steinberg, Neumark). 11.00 News in easy Hebrew. 11.05 Ivrit La'am. 11.15 Purim Songs. 12.05 Adele Pilowski plays Chopin: "Grand Polonaise Brilliant": Gelbrun — Four Preludes: Prokofiev: Sonata No. 7; Villa-Lobos: Chorus No. 5: Ginastera: Four Argentinian Dances. 1.05 "Contrasts" — Music by M. Arnold, St. Foster, Y. Cohen, Mozart, Brahms, F. Tzadok, Shostakovich. 2.10 Mother and Child. 3.05 "Radiodea" — "Improving your Knowledge." 3.30 Talmud lesson. 3.50 Book Review. 4.10 A Moment of Hebrew. 4.11 "Soiree Musicale" — Prokofiev: Piano Concerto No. 4 (Bar-Ilan); Wolf: Italian Serenade. 5.10 Music in a light vein. 6.05 Light Music. 6.15 Megilat Esther. 7.05 "Today." 7.25 Light Music. 7.50 Bible Reading: Megilat Esther. 8.05 Radio Chess Competition. 8.07 (Stereo) Offenbach: "The Beautiful Helena" — complete opera. 11.05 Discussion. 12.10 A Moment of Poetry. 12.13 Close Down.

SECOND PROGRAMME
457, 423, 249, 355 and 340 M.

5.58 Opening. 6.00 Religious Service. 6.10 Exercises. 6.20 Musical Clock. 6.55 Programme Announcements. 6.59 A Moment of Hebrew. 7.05 "Good Morning." 8.35 "This Country." 9.05 "Good Morning." (cont.). 11.05 "Here at Home." 11.40 Where to go and light music. 12.05 Programme for the Worker and the Employer. 12.30 Hebrew Songs. 1.05 p.m. "At Midday." 2.10 This is Ehud Manor. 3.52 "Names and Events in the Jewish Scene." 4.10 A Moment of Hebrew. 4.11 "Songs from the Big Screen." 4.30 S. Rosen's Quiz. 4.35 Songs from the Big Screen (cont.). 5.10 "Find the Link." 6.05 "Songs from Father's Home." 6.45 Today's Sport. 6.53 Announcements. 9.05 "From Pop to Inclusive." 10.05 Two Hours with the Gashash Hahiver. 12.10 Jazz. 1.05 Close Down.

FIFTH PROGRAMME
445 M.

5.58 p.m. Opening. 7.00 News. 7.05 Song and Melody. 8.00 News. 8.05 Song and Melody.

IMMIGRANTS' HOUR
457, 423, 256, 249, 355 and 340.5 M.

7.00 p.m. News in easy Hebrew. Ivrit La'am. 7.15 Georgian. 7.30 Yiddish. 8.00 Ladino. 8.15 Mograbi. 8.30 Rumanian. 8.45 Russian. 9.30 Close Down.

ENGLISH NEWS AND PROGRAMMES

7.00 a.m. (4th programme and short waves); 1.30-2.00 p.m. (4th programme and short waves); 6.00 p.m. (4th programme); 8.30-8.45 p.m. (4th programme); 10.00-10.55 p.m. (short waves).

FRENCH NEWS AND PROGRAMMES

7.15 a.m. (4th programme and short waves); 2.00-2.30 p.m. (4th programme and short waves); 6.05 p.m. (4th programme); 8.45-9.00 p.m. (4th programme); 12.00-1.00 a.m. (short waves).
1st Programme — 522, 256 and 221 M.
4th Programme — 407, 445 and 292 M.
3rd Programme (short waves) — 16, 19, 25, 31, 33, 41 and 49 M.

ISRAEL TELEVISION SERVICE

5.30 News. 5.32 Cartoons. 6.00 Entertainment for Children. 8.00 "Megilat Esther." 8.30 Mabat. 9.00 "Carnival in Tel Aviv." 9.50 "Yours for an Hour" — with Gadi Yagil. 10.30 "How Green Was My Valley" — film. 11.00 News.
Educational: 4.00 Handiwork. 4.20 "What there is in the World." 4.35 Art film. 5.00 "Improve Your Hebrew."
Arabic: 6.30 News. 6.32 Sport. 7.17 Projector. 7.25 Programme Review. 7.30 News.

GALEI ZAHAL
234, 230 and 220 M.

5.58 a.m. Morning Prayer. 6.05 Morning Tunes. 7.55 Programme Trailer. 8.05 Zahal's Newreel. 9.05 Requests. 9.55 Itzik Manger's Songs. 10.5 Warm and Tasty. 10.55 Uri Sela's Corner. 11.05 Warm and Tasty. 11.55 Ori Dver's Corner. 12.05 Zahal's Newsreel. 12.35 "Midday Star." 12.55 Yitzhak Tishler's Corner. 1.05 Itzik Manger's Songs. 1.55 p.m. Announcements. 2.05 "2-3-4" — with Shmuel Shai and Ehud Graf. 4.05 "Children's Songs." 5.05 Zahal's Newsreel. 5.40 Tunes for Everybody. 5.55 Programme Trailer. 6.05 "Purim Newsreel." 7.05 "Megilat Esther." 8.05 Purim Entertainment. 10.05 "Purim Dancing Party." 2.05 "Silence in There." 3.05 "Inn of the Spirits." 4.05 Purim Tunes.

THE JERUSALEM POST CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

DEADLINES:

Jerusalem: For Sunday, 5 p.m. Thursday; Weekdays, 10 a.m. of day prior to publication; For Friday, 5 p.m. Wednesday.
Tel Aviv and Haifa: For Sunday, 12 noon Thursday; Weekdays and Friday, 12 noon two days prior to publication.

Accepted at all offices of THE JERUSALEM POST and all recognized agencies
RATE (per word) Weekdays: IL2.00. Fridays and Holidays: IL2.50.

WHERE TO DINE

LA TRATTORIA, 119 Sd. Hanassi, Merkaz Hacarmel, Haifa, for gourmets. Tel. 04-82020.

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LOST & FOUND

POLICY NO. 674099 issued by Migdal-Binyan Insurance Company Ltd. in the name of Egmo Limited on the life of Mr. Yehuda Sapir, has been lost.

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a soldier a lift
today?

WHAT'S ON

Plant a Tree in Israel with Your Own Hands: free tours for planters to the Hills of Judea leave every Monday and Wednesday from Jerusalem and every Tuesday from Tel Aviv. For details and registration please call Visitors' Department: Keren Kayemet Leisrael (Jewish National Fund): in Jerusalem, King George Ave., corner Rehov Keren Kayemet, Tel. 02-35261. In Tel Aviv, 96 Rehov Hayarkon, opp. Dan Hotel. Tel. 03-234449.

JERUSALEM

Hadassah Tours.
1. Medical Centre at 9.30 a.m., 11.00 a.m., 12.15 p.m. and 3.00 p.m. Last tour on Friday at 12.15 p.m. Kennedy Building. No charge. Buses 19 and 27.
2. Morning half-day tour of all Hadassah projects. IL12.00 ($2) per person towards transportation. By reservation only: Tel. 416333.

Israel Museum: Exhibitions: Micha Bar-Am. Photographs (from 12.2); Old Master Prints: Durer, Rembrandt & Others, Rosenbloom bequest (I); Impressionist Prints & Drawings, Centennial of the first Impressionist Show; American Art — from the Museum's Collection; "Past and Present" — the J. Mitchell Gift; AGI — Graphics and the Community; Picasso's "Guernica" — a Protest Against Wars; Our Pupils at Work. Hours: Israel Museum: Sun., Mon., Wed. Thurs. 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Tues. Shrine of the Book & Billy Rose Art Garden: 10 a.m.-10 p.m.; Museum: 4 p.m.-10 p.m.; Rockefeller: Sun., Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs. 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Israel Museum & Rockefeller: Fri., Sat. 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

HEBREW UNIVERSITY, tours in English at 9 and 11 a.m. from Administration Building, Givat Ram Campus. Mount Scopus tours 11.30 a.m. from Truman Building. Further details: Tel. 35430.

Rubin Academy of Music, Jerusalem, in cooperation with the Jerusalem Municipality Culture Section: Tonight, Sunday, February 23, at 8.30 .m. in the hall of the Academy, 7 Rehov Perets Smolenskin, Jerusalem—Guest Lecture by the Composer, Lootzyano Baryo, on his approach to composition.

Jerusalem Biblical Zoo, Schneller Wood, Romema. Tel. 533822, 7.30 a.m. — dusk.

AT THE KHAN THEATRE (opposite the railway station). A Folklore evening for tourists with Inbal dance group every Wednesday at 9.00 p.m.

Everything You Want To Know About Israel An evening of Questions and Answers, sponsored by the Information Centre, in cooperation with the Ministry of Tourism, will be held tonight, Monday, February 24, at 9 p.m., in the Moriah Hotel, Jerusalem. A documentary film will be screened after the session. Entrance free. Tourists welcome.

TEL AVIV

Tel Aviv University — Conducted Tours: free conducted tours in English of RAMAT AVIV CAMPUS daily except Saturday. Assembly point at University 10.30 a.m. Public Relations Dept.

MAGEN DAVID ADOM IN ISRAEL Headquarters — 60 Rehov Giborei Israel, Tel Aviv. Visitors — Please call 36222 between 8.00 a.m. and 2.00 p.m. to arrange visits to our Central Blood Bank in Jaffa and for information regarding other Magen David Adom installations.

TEL AVIV MUSEUM Sderot Shaul Hamelech. Visiting hours: Sunday, Monday, Wednesday, Thursday: 10 a.m.-5.00 p.m. Tuesday: 10 a.m.-1 p.m.; 4-10 p.m. Saturday: 6-10 p.m. EXHIBITIONS. "ALCOA" Collection of Contemporary Art comprising works created by international artists between 1949 and 1970. GEORGES ROUAULT (1871-1958) Zacks Hall. ISRAELI ART (Meyerhoff Hall), IMPRESSIONISM (Jaglom Hall) SURREALISM, POST CUBISM (Hall No. 3) KINETIC ART (Haft Hall) PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION. HELENA RUBINSTEIN PAVILION (6, Rehov Tarsat) DAVID BEN-GURION 1886-1973 Open: Sun., Mon., Wed., Thurs.,: 10 a.m.-7 p.m.; Tues.: 10 a.m.-10 p.m.; Friday: 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; Saturday: 6 p.m.-10 p.m.

The Helena Rubinstein Art Library (new building) Open: Sun., Mon., Wed., Thurs.; 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Tues. 10 a.m.-1 p.m., 4 p.m.-7 p.m., Fri. 10 a.m.1 p.m.

MUSEUM OF ANTIQUITIES OF TEL AVIV-YAFO, 10 Rehov Mifratz Shlomo. Open as above.

MUSEUM OF THE HISTORY OF TEL AVIV-YAFO, 27 Rehov Bialik. Open as above but closed Saturday.

Ha'aretz Museum, Tel Aviv Museum Centre, Ramat Aviv: (1) Glass Museum; (2) Kadmon Numismatic Museum; (3) Exhibition at the Ceramic Museum; Sculpture in Clay by Gedula Ogen.; (4) Museum of Science and Technology; (5) Museum of Ethnography and Folklore; (6) Alphabet Museum; (7) Nechushtan Pavilion; (8) Tel-Qasile Excavations; Open: Sun., Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs. 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Fri. 9.00 a.m.-1 p.m., Sat. 10.00 a.m.-2 p.m., entrance free on Saturdays.

American Mizrahi Women's Organization 16, 18, Rehov Dov Hos, Tel Aviv, Tel. 03-220187, 243106; Jerusalem 02-222648; Haifa 04-661528; Beersheba 057-78171.

National Religious Women's Organization Mizrahi and Hapoel Mizrahi Women in Israel, 166 Rehov Ibn Gvirol, Tel Aviv; Tel. 03-788942, 03-440316. Jerusalem: Tel. 02-30620, 02-35282, Mondays. Wednesdays guided tours, through Neve Sara Herzog Complex, Bnei Brak.

World Wizo Tourists Office, 116 Hayarkon. Tel. 232939, 8 a.m.-2 p.m.

Canadian Hadassah-Wizo Office, 116 Hayarkon. Tel. 227060, 8 a.m.-2 p.m.

MOETZET HAPOALOT — PIONEER WOMEN, Courtesy Tours Sunday through Thursday morning. By appointment only, Tel. 261111, ext. 566, Tel Aviv.

ORT ISRAEL: For visits please contact: ORT Tel Aviv, Tel. 782291-2; ORT Jerusalem, Tel. 233675; ORT Haifa, Tel. 668000, ORT Netanya, Tel. 22922.

REHOVOT

WEIZMANN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE Conducted tours, Sun. to Fri. at 10.30 a.m., starting from the lobby of the Stone Administration Building.

B-G Airport Flights

Please call Ben-Gurion Airport Flight Information, 03-971461/2/3 (or 03-971333 for El Al flights only) for changes in times of Arrivals and Departures.

MONDAY

ARRIVALS: TWA 811 from Bangkok and Bombay, 0415; Air France 162 from Teheran, 1020; Alitalia 738 from Rome, 1330; El Al 500 from N.Y. and Montreal, 1350; El Al 824 from Rome, 1340; Olympic 301 from Athens, 1410; TWA 880 from N.Y. and Athens, 1430; El Al 004 from N.Y., 1450; El Al 566 from Teheran, 1520; Lufthansa 632 from Frankfurt and Munich, 1525; TWA 810 from Boston, Paris and Rome, 1635; KLM 525 from Amsterdam, 1650; El Al 818 from N.Y., and Amsterdam, 1655; Sabena 201 from Brussels, 1725; Swissair 330 from Zurich, 1805; CPA 242 from Montreal, Amsterdam and Athens, 1815; El Al 424 from Rome, 1855; BA 484 from London, 1935; El Al 426 from London, 2000; El Al 428 from Paris and Geneva, 2040; El Al 334 from Brussels and Zurich, 2110; El Al 420 from Amsterdam and Vienna, 2140; Air France 134 from Paris and Lyons, 2150; El Al 582 from Istanbul, 2215.

DEPARTURES: TWA 811 to Rome, Paris and Boston, 0530; El Al 221 to Paris, Montreal and N.Y., 0630; Swissair 331 to Zurich, 0700; El Al 427 to Zurich and Paris, 0720; El Al 566 to Teheran 0740; El Al 001 to N.Y. 0800; El Al 429 to Geneva and Amsterdam, 0820; El Al 333 to Vienna and Brussels, 0840; TWA 841 to Athens, Rome and N.Y., 0845; Air France 139 to Athens and Paris, 0850; El Al 425 to London, 0900; BA 465 to London, 0925; SAS 852 to Copenhagen, 1035; Air France 161 to Paris, 1135; Alitalia 739 to Rome 1425; Olympic 302 to Athens, 1510; Lufthansa 637 to Frankfurt, 1615; El Al 423 to Rome, 1645; El Al 581 to Istanbul, 1745; TWA 810 to Bombay, and Bangkok, 1750.

EMERGENCY PHARMACIES

JERUSALEM: Bayit Vegan, 59 Hapisga, 535626; New Tazziz, Azzahra, 282040.
TEL AVIV: Benny, 174 Dizengoff, 222386; Frenkel, 28 King George, 223721; Yani, 67 Yehuda Halevi, 612474. HOLON: Assuta, 4 Trumpeldor. BAT YAM: Balfour, 90 Balfour. RAMAT GAN: Talpiot, 30 Abba Hillel, 723554. BNEI BRAK: Hanassi, 111 Jabotinsky. RAMATAYIM: Randes, 20 Mashabim. PETAH TIKVA: Merkaz Hasharon, 40 Hovevei Zion, 911078. NETANYA: Hamagen, 13 Weizmann, 23866. HAIFA: Balfour, 1 Massada, 662269. BEERSHEBA: Yerushalayim, 34 Herzl.

EMERGENCY HOSPITALS IN JERUSALEM

Bikur Holim (pediatrics). Hadassah (internal, surgery). Misgav Ladah (obstetrics). Shaare Zedek (eyes).

EMERGENCY HOSPITALS IN TEL AVIV

Ichilov (internal, surgery).
For emergency first aid, dial 101, Magen David Adom.
"ERAN" — Mental Health First Aid, Tel. Jerusalem 69911.

CINEMAS

JERUSALEM
4, 7 & 9

ARNON: The Martyr; CHEN: Camille 2000; EDEN: Sacage; EDISON: Sareyya; HABIRAH: Les Petroleuses; JERUSALEM: North by Northwest, 7, 9.15 only; MITCHELL: Truck Turner; ORGIL: A Game For Two; ORION: Verdict; ORNA: The Odessa File; RON: A Son of No One; SEMADAR: Gone with the Wind.

TEL AVIV
4.30, 7.15, 9.30

ALLENBY: The Parallax View; BEN YEHUDA: Freebie and the Bean; CINEMA ONE: Stacey; CINEMA TWO: A Streetcar Named Desire, weekdays 11:30, 1.45, 4, 6, 8.15, 10.15, Friday at 12.00, 2.30; CINERAMA: Act of Vengeance 7.15, 9.30; ESTHER: Vincent, Francois, Paul... and the others; DEKEL: California Split; PARIS: L'Amour d'Apres Midi 10, 12, 2, 4, 7.15, 8.30; CHEN: Superdad also at 2 p.m. on Mon., Tues., Wed.; DRIVE-IN CINEMA: At 7.00 Alexander le Bien Heureux, at 9.30 The List of Adrian Messenger; GAT: Crazy Sex; GORDON: The Martyr; HOD: Borsalino and Company; ORLY: A Warm December; PEER: Jeremy; RAMAT AVIV: Paper Moon 7.15, 9.30 also Tues. at 4.30; OPHIR: Airport '75; MOGRABI: Odessa File 4.30, 7, 9.30; MAXIM: Adieu l'Ami; TCHELET: W.R. — The Mysteries of the Organism; ZAFON: Les Violons Du Bal; STUDIO: Murder on the Orient Express, 4.30, 7, 9.30; TEL AVIV: The Sound of Music 5, 8.30; LIMOR: Quest for Love.

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TIFERET: Nightmare Honeymoon, 7, 9; DAVID: Eleven Harrow House 4, 7, 9.15.

RAMAT GAN

ARMON: Walking Tall 7.15, 9.30, mat. at 4.00 Cat Low; HADAR: The Doberman Gang 7.15, 9.30; LILI: For Pete's Sake 7.15, 9.30; ORDEA: The Klansman 4.30, 7.15, 9.30; RAMA: She Knew No Other Way, 7.15, 9.30; OASIS: One Little Indian 7.15, 9.30; RAMAT GAN: Il Bestione 7.15, 9.30.

PETAH TIKVA

SHALOM: Hanging on a Tree 3.30, 7, 9 Mon. at 3.30, 7 only.

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ESTHER: Golden Needles

HAIFA

AMPHITHEATRE: The Golden Voyage of Sinbad; ARMON: Airport '75; ATZMON: Death Wish; BEIT ROTHSCHILD: Sun. at 10.00 Les Parapluies de Cherbourg, Mon. at 6.00 Gigi, Tues. at 6.00 The King and I, Wed. at 10.00 An American in Paris, Thurs. at 6.00 Sweet Charity; CHEN: Walking Tall; MIRON: Street of Desires; ORDAN: Cabaret; MORIAH: I Walk the Line; ORAH: Murder on the Orient Express, 4, 6.45, 9.15; ORION: The Wild Gang at 10, 2, 7, 9, mat. on Purim at 12, 4 The X from Outer Space; ORLY: American Graffiti 6.45, 9.00; PEER: Some Like it Hot; RON: The Odessa File; SHAVIT: Sleuth 6.45, 9.00.

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STATE OF ISRAEL
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS
Tender No. 228/74

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Tender forms and further particulars can be obtained from the Director, Purchasing and Supply Division, 172 Rehov Herzl, Tel Aviv, daily during working hours.

The tender must be accompanied by a letter of guarantee or cheque of a recognized bank in the amount of 10% of the first IL50,000 — and 5% of the balance (if any) of the bid total.

The bid accompanied by the guarantee, must be sent to the Director-General, Ministry of Communications, Jerusalem, in double envelopes. The inner envelope is to be marked "Confidential — Tender No. 228/74." Bids not submitted in the above manner will not be considered.

Bids must be submitted not later than March 3, 1975.

The Ministry of Communications is not bound to accept the lowest or any bid nor to order the entire quantity from a single contractor.

Bids submitted by telegram will not be considered.

Director-General
Ministry of Communications

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MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS
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Tenders are invited for the execution of technical work in Dodge A100 Vans, in which control units are to be installed according to specification. Lay-out plans are available in our office. Tender forms and further particulars can be obtained from the Director, Purchasing and Supply Division, 172 Rehov Herzl, Tel Aviv, daily during working hours.

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Bids must be submitted not later than March 3, 1975.

The Ministry of Communications is not bound to accept the lowest or any bid nor to order the entire quantity from a single contractor.

Bids submitted by telegram will not be considered.

Director-General
Ministry of Communications

JERUSALEM DISTRICT COURT
Probate File 115/75
Summons

In the matter of the will of the late Harry Chiones, I.D. No. 7937421, of Jerusalem, who died on March 26, 1961 in Jerusalem.

Petitioner: Isaac Chiones, U.S.A. Passport No. A407717, represented by Mr. M. Wagner, attorney-at-law, of 17 Rehov Hillel, Jerusalem.

Citation: Be it made known that an application has been filed in the above Court declaring the succession to the above deceased, and I hereby cite all persons claiming any benefit in the estate of the deceased and who desire to oppose the declaration of succession, to submit their objection to the declaration applied for within 14 days from the date of publication of this Citation. Otherwise this Court will make such order as it may deem fit.

Ephraim Levi
Registrar

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Opening remarks: Mrs. Mildred B. Efros
Film: Meet George Washington
Introductory remarks: John Crockett, Cultural Attache of the U.S. Embassy.
Unveiling of the Portrait of President Gerald Ford by Mrs. Kenneth B. Keating, Wife of the American Ambassador to Israel.
— Refreshments —
The public is invited

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Taf-Alef/75/12	Gan Yavne	1,463
Taf-Alef/75/13	Gan Yavne	5,031
Taf-Alef/75/14	Rehovot	1,902
Taf-Alef/75/15	Hod Hasharon	1,128
Taf-Alef/75/16	Hod Hasharon	1,220
Taf-Alef/75/23	Gan Yavne	3,678

Plots will be allocated on recommendation of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.
Details, sample agreements and bid forms are obtainable in our District Office in Tel Aviv, 88 Derech Petah Tikva, first floor, room 15, during normal working hours.
The last date for submitting requests (for recommendation) to the Ministry of Commerce and Industry is March 14, 1975.
The last date for submitting bids (to the Israel Lands Administration) is May 12, 1975, at 12 noon.
Bids should be inserted into the Tenders Box, located at the Lands Administration offices, at the aforementioned address.
The Israel Lands Administration is not obligated to accept the highest, or any, bid.

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Africans still waiting for Arab aid

By COLIN LEGUM

LONDON (Ofra). — A MAJOR PROBLEM facing the Organisation of African Unity is the question of aid for poorer countries in the continent following the rise in oil prices.

It is a sensitive issue since it touches directly on Arab-African relations. After the decision to use oil as a weapon during the October 1973 war and the subsequent raising of oil prices, the OAU appointed a Committee of Seven, under the chairmanship of Sudan's then Foreign Minister, Dr. Mansour Khalid, to negotiate with the Arab and other oil-producing nations for help to those African countries especially hard hit by the swinging increase in their import bills. The Arab League became the negotiating partner for the Middle Eastern countries with the OAU.

The Arab nations decided to take two steps to assist African countries. They offered a $200m. loan to be given to the hardest hit African nations, as well as setting up an Arab-African Agricultural and Development Fund. The Committee of Seven was unhappy both about the size of the Arab loan and its method of operation since it was proposed to administer it through the Arab League.

At the last OAU summit meeting in Mogadishu in 1974, the Committee insisted that the $200 million should be paid into the African Development Bank for distribution under criteria to be mutually agreed between the OAU and the Arab League.

Although the Committee of Seven subsequently proposed its own set of criteria, these were not acceptable to the Arab countries, and it was agreed that the latter should send three missions around the continent to try to reach agreement about the criteria. Although that decision was taken last November, the missions have not yet begun their work. Meanwhile, the African countries have become increasingly worried as the impact of the oil price rises have seriously upset their budgets.

Under the proposals of the Committee of Seven, the two countries put at the top of the list as most qualifying for aid were Tanzania and Ethiopia; each was to receive a loan of about $14,500,000.

But the Arab oil-producers, with one exception, have so far refused to pay their contributions into the African Dvelopment Bank. The exception is Algeria, which did pay its quota of $20 million, but it stipulated its own criteria for the way in which its loan should be used. Its criteria are different from those recommended by the Committee of Seven.

Libya has paid its quota directly to the Arab League into a separate account. It is not known whether Saudi Arabia, Iraq and the other members of the Arab oil exporters have yet made any payments towards the proffered loan.

This 15 months delay in the negotiations between the OAU and the Arab Lague has produced considerable tensions within the Committee of Seven, with countries like Tanzania, Zambia and Ghana taking a sharply critical attitude.

Nevertheless, because Tanzania is in such urgent need of help to buy food and feritilizers, it decided to approach the Arab League directly to obtain its allocation. But like other African countries, Tanzania still insists that the Arab loan should be handled through the African Development Bank.

Several French-speaking African countries have drawn unfavourable comparisons between the $200m. loan proffered by the Arab countries and the $500 million outright gift given by the European Development Fund of the Common Market to African countries to help meet their higher fuel costs.

The Arabs' answer to this comparison is that the $200 million loan is not all the Arab oil-producers are giving. They are providing direct loans to a number of African countries, such as Sudan, through bilateral arrangements. They are also providing a much larger sum, as yet unspecified, for the Arab-African Agricultural and Development Fund. Moreover, the Arab League has raised the question about the failure of other oil-producing nations (like Nigeria, Iran and Venezuela) to help hard-hit poorer countries.

Nevertheless, the Arab League cannot fail to take account of the tensions which have been building up in Arab-African relations over these prolonged negotiations.

Swiss bank acts to bar foreign takeover bids

GENEVA (AP). — In a surprise move, Union Bank of Switzerland, the largest Swiss commercial bank with a worldwide voice in finance, has taken action to prevent a foreign takeover.

Senior bank officials go out of their way in stressing the move — involving a freeze on the number of voting shares held by non-resident foreigners — was not directed against petrodollars in search of a promising investment.

But discreet suggestions from the federal government and public concern over "foreignization" of the Swiss economy have followed recent spectacular purchases by oil producers into West German and other key international companies.

The Union Bank project has won praise in the Swiss press for its ingenuity. It may set a precedent for other banks and companies worried about petrodollar pressure, observers said.

The Union Bank scheme involves a complex system under which shares will be issued for the first time. The move would in effect freeze the number of voting shares held by non-resident foreigners.

A COMPLETE DAIRY farm for 2,000 cows, thought to be the largest such plant in the world, is to be delivered to the Soviet Union under the terms of a $11.5m. contract with a Swedish firm, Alfa-Laval AB.

Curing Israel's social and economic malaise

By MOSHE ATER
Jerusalem Post Economic Editor

EZRA ZOHAR is not an economist (but a practising physician and a professor of medicine). His unorthodox book, "Bitsvat Hamishtar" (In the Grip of the Regime, Jerusalem Shikmona, 175 pp., 1974) is nevertheless recommended for everybody concerned about economic and social issues in this country. One need not agree to the solutions it suggests. But its searching questions cannot easily be shrugged off. And despite its biting criticism of our administrative and social system, one comes away with a cheerful feeling that things may not be so bad — much can be changed and it is up to us to do it.

A major part of the book is devoted to a reappraisal of the prevailing demographic forecasts, which — the author argues — fail to take proper account of the Arab emigration and of the declining trend of Arab natural increase, while also underrating the Jewish immigration potential and the rising rate of Jewish natural increase. However, the book's basic theme is the crucial role played in almost every respect by state controls and administrative discretion geared to the perpetuation of dominant political groupings.

We are used to thinking that controls, rationing, and a system of priorities are inevitable owing to shortage of resources. Professor Zohar questions this belief. Shortage is an inevitable result of controls, he argues, and a welcome pretext for maintaining them. And controls and administrative discretion are the natural power base of a ruling party. Israel's economic and social malaise therefore cannot be cured without reforming the all-pervading dominance of party allegiance.

It is tempting to dismiss this reasoning as a sophisticated way of blaming the authorities for everything that goes wrong. But the author does not resort to demagogic tricks. He demonstrates his thesis through a series of practical examples — development of our underpopulated areas, housing, agricultural settlement, health services, industrial investment, taxation, absorption of immigrants, and others. He shows that a substantial part of the disappointing results can indeed be traced to bureaucratic hindrance; not just to unavoidable red tape, but to unwillingness to give up convenient power levers. He does not pretend to be particularly original in saying this, and extensively quotes journalists, experts, even official statements voicing the same concern. The strength of his book lies less in the novelty of his ideas than in their commonsense, broad presentation.

The London "Economist" recently argued that abuse of foreign aid, nepotism, and corruption were normal features of a certain transitory stage in an underdeveloped nation's progress toward's becoming a fully-fledged industrial democracy. The article was meant to be an apology for the Thieu regime in South Vietnam, but for a reader in this country the parallels to Israel were painfully apparent.

No one who reads Zohar's book can still try to detach the discussion of our economic and social ills from the basic question *cui bono?* Who gains by the preservation of the present unsatisfactory state of affairs? Who obstructs the reforms so urgently called for? He does not need the State Comptroller to be aware of the gulf separating the official pep-talk from the actual functioning of our administration, and of the vested interests benefiting from it. Zohar's practical proposals may be somewhat simplistic, but there is no gainsaying that he is right in pointing to the tremendous impact of our political structure on the nation's progress — or lack of it — in all walks of life.

Norwegian gem buyer visits diamond centre

A leading Norwegian diamond and fine jewellery merchant, Mr. K. Lauvland of Oslo, visited the Israel Diamond Exchange in Ramat Gan this month on a buying mission to the major production and export centre for polished gem diamonds. It was one of the first visits by any Norwegian jewellery executive to the Israel diamond industry.

Mr. Lauvland said he found almost all types and styles of polished diamonds at competitive prices. He also predicted the market for fine diamonds would increase during the coming year in Norway.

IL22M. IN MIFAL HAPAYIS funds have been invested in Welfare Ministry projects for problem youth in the last five years, the Lottery management has announced.

TEL AVIV STOCKS

Index-linked firm

TEL AVIV. — Index-linked bonds were very firm yesterday with a tendency to rise slightly. Financial circles believe that index-linked bonds will continue to rise gradually throughout the current year, perhaps by as much as 30 per cent in all, since they believe that the new budget is inflationary in nature. The turnover yesterday in bonds was IL13,722,000. Stocks were irregular and trading was dull. The turnover in the variables was small.

The turnover in stocks was IL2,422,000; of this only IL573,000 was in the variables.

Bank Leumi fell but one point to IL246 with a turnover of 94,000. Poalim Bearer rose by half-a-point to IL282.5 with a turnover of 77,000. ILDC Bearer rose by three points to IL104 with a turnover of 35,000. Hadera gained four to IL274 with a turnover of 26,000. Discount Investment lost three to IL163.5 with a turnover of IL42,000 and Bank Leumi Investment lost one to 197 with a turnover of 57,000.

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DEBENTURES			
LINKED TO THE DOLLAR			
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6% Electric Corp. A	r	168	167
6% Electric Corp. B	r	155.2	155
LINKED to the C.o.L. INDEX (Principal & Interest)			
Kista 1966, Index 110.1	b	434.5	435
Bitahon 1968, Series 41	b	196	194.5
Bitahon 1969, Series 41	b	140	138.5
COMMERCIAL BANKS & BANKHOLDING COMPANIES			
Otsar Hityashvut	r	215	217
I.D.B. pref.	r	298	296
I.D.B. Bankholding	r	195	195
Union Bank	r	302	302
Discount Bank "A"	r	465	462
United Mizrahi Bank	b	160	161
Bank Hapoalim—10%	b	292	293
Bank Leumi "A"		246	247
MORTGAGE BANKS			
Gen. Mortgage Bank	b	275	275
Carmel Mortg. & Inv.	b	159	158
Dev. & Mortg. Bank	b	258	260
Housing Mortg. Bank	b	172	173
Tefahot 8%	b	238	234
Tefahot	b	231	234
SPECIALIZED FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS			
Ind. & Dev. Bank 8%	r	72	71
Aryeh	r	366.5	374
Hasneh Insurance	b	235	234.5
Sahar—"C"	b	256	260
COMMERCIAL SERVICES & UTILITIES			
Motor House	b	77	75.5
Delek C.	r	144	152
Cold Storage—IL10	r	143	143
Israel Electric Corp.	r	141.5	145.5
Lighterage & Supply	r	134	137
LAND, BUILDING DEVELOPMENT AND CITRUS			
Asorim	r	118	120
Africa Isr. IL10	r	230	224
Isr. Land Dev.	b	104	101
Solel Boneh—10%	b	110	110
Property & Build.	r	169	170
Isras	b	109.5	114
Mehadrin	r	169.5	170
I.C.P. Isr. Citrus	r	91.5	92
Anglo-Isr. Investor	b	206	206
Neot Aviv	r	85.5	84.5
Pri Or Ltd.	r	146.5	146
Rassco—8%	r	92	92.5
Rassco—O.	r	61	61
INDUSTRIAL			
Alliance—B	r	409	409
Elco—2.5	b	90	91
Electra—5	r	133	136
"Argaman"—8%	b	196	197.5
"Ata"—C	r	82	82
Dubek	b	349	350
Elect. Wire & Cable	b	136	135
Teva		1090	1100
Chem. & Phosphates	r	137	135
Lewin Epstein	b	70.5	68
Moller Textile	r	225	220
Phoenicia—8%	b	74	73
Paper Mills	r	274	270
Assis "B"	r	162.5	162
Neohushtan	b	549	550
Elite (A)	r	194	195
Shemen—8%	b	105	108
"Tasi" Plywood	b	113	114
INVESTMENT & HOLDING COMPANIES			
Elgar	b	83	83
Eilern	b	157	156
Israel Central Trade	r	162	156
Bank Hapoalim	b	245	245
Paz	b	93.5	96.5
Wolfson IL10	b	75	75.5
Ampa	r	112.5	117.2
Discount Bank	b	163.5	166.5
United Mizrahi	b	151	152
Bank Leumi	r	97	198
Piryon Investment	r	98	98
Hassuta-For. Trade	r	81	80
Export Bank	b	68	68.5
Clal Investment	r	200	200
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MUSIC

INSECURITY

THE JERUSALEM Symphony Orchestra has not been immune to the current flu epidemic and it was probably last minute replacements which accounted for a certain insecurity of performance obvious in the opening item of the all-Bartok evening at the Jerusalem Theatre (Feb. 18). Despite all the energetic efforts of conductor Mendi Rodan precision and concentration were lacking in the reading of the Divertimento for Strings, and this marvellous work thus fell short of providing full satisfaction. But things improved considerably with the presentation of the Third Piano Concerto, in which Allan Sternfield appeared as soloist. This young pianist from the United States made an excellent impression all-round. His concentration is directed solely on his performance, and with his impeccable technical resources and a musical approach beyond reproach the result was an absorbing experience. Octave passages were hammered out effortlessly, and lyrical lines had a singing quality, rarely heard among pianists of the younger generation. Cooperation of conductor and orchestra helped to create a performance of high standard.

The Chamber Choir of the Jerusalem Rubin Academy offered Four Slovak Folksongs. Directed by Stanley Sperber, this vocal interlude provided pleasant sounds in good balance. The singers could not be expected to be fluent in Slovak, but unclear diction tends to blot crisp accentuation, which is an integral part of the musical rendition — particularly with Bartok — and as a result the rhythmical background was somewhat unclear.

The orchestra was better in the Dance Suite, in which the musicians were driven to good performance by the forceful direction of Mendi Rodan.

"This "Portrait of a Composer," as the series is called, was particularly successful. The choice of works, their ever-changing character and tonal combinations, representing different periods of the composer's writing (1917-1923-1939-1945), made for a very satisfying evening.

YOHANAN BOEHM.

Schwartzberg's subtle Mozart

VIOLINIST Dora Schwartzberg is by now a familiar figure on our concert platforms, but this was her first appearance with the IPO (Subscription Concert No. 6, Tel Aviv, Mann Auditorium, Feb. 15).

She must be complimented for not choosing one of the hackneyed concertos for her debut. Mozart's melodious G-Major concerto depends for its successful presentation on the artist's merits only. Her tone gives her the right to be included in the master violinist class and musically too, she seems to be on the right path. She has become more relaxed, controls her temperament and pays much more attention to the more intimate and intrinsic aspects of the music than before. The first movement was still slightly too robust and aggressive for my taste, but the song-like middle movement emerged fully expressed, attractively phrased, and very subtle.

We were lucky to have had this rather unpretentious Mozart concerto in the first part of the programme, since the second half was devoted to Mahler's huge, Ninth Symphony in D-Major. Ninety minutes of Mahler's pitilessly soul-tortured music is a trial for which the listener needs all his mental strength and concentration. The convulsive first movement, the grotesque, shadowy, almost inhuman second and third movements and the incredibly sad final Adagio, open up a world which is difficult to enter and even more difficult to leave.

Conductor Michael Tilson Thomas tried hard to embrace it all. He varied the pace as much as possible which helped to make everything much more accessible, but he seemed handicapped by technical problems and lack of worked-out detail. As a result the overwhelming emotional content was only partly expressed. Long stretches remained cut off from their *spiritual* source. Others lacked the passionate urgency which led to the creation of the symphony. However, Mahler's "Ninth" is a work which can never claim absolute completeness. Judged by these standards Michael Tilson Thomas's performance must be admired for its honesty and effort. In the last movement, the Adagio, the young conductor succeeded in giving moving expression to Mahler's deep feeling of parting and end.

BENJAMIN BAR-AM

'Firebird' flared

MANY SPECIAL CONCERTS are being arranged nowadays in order to give new immigrants from Russia a chance to show their talents. One such occasion was the Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra's concert last week at the Jerusalem Theatre (Feb. 20), presenting a composer, two soloists, and a conductor.

Alexander Manievitch (born 1908) wrote his Capriccio (Memories of Dear Ones) in 1963. Faintly reminiscent of Tschaikovsky and Rimsky-Korsakov, but also of Ravel ("La Valse"), the Capriccio is obviously the work of a well-grounded craftsman. Vera Veidman, at 25 now at the beginning of her career, performed the solo part in Bruch's First Violin Concerto most proficiently. Her pleasant, cultured tone, smooth bowing and elegant interpretation was well adapted to the music. Sixteen-year-old Yefin Bronfman is a different personality who already has all the makings of a great pianist and musician. His concentration and stupendous technical skill, unfailing memory and untiring physical stamina, coupled with a natural musicality make each of his appearances a special event. His performance of Rachmaninov's Third Piano Concerto lacked nothing.

Conductor Nahum Zeidel — normally at the first desk of the orchestra's flutes — added the Suite from "The Firebird" by Stravinsky for good measure. He is a very conscientious time-keeper but shows no flair for revealing musical interpretation. His beat is dry and wooden, and he seems to be a shy, introverted personality — no assets for a conductor. That some parts of the "Firebird" really flared up was due more to the in-built impetus of the music and the orchestra's clean and efficient performance than to the conductor's temperament.

YOHANAN BOEHM.

DANCE NEWS

Bat-Dor best in 'Beyond the Mirror'

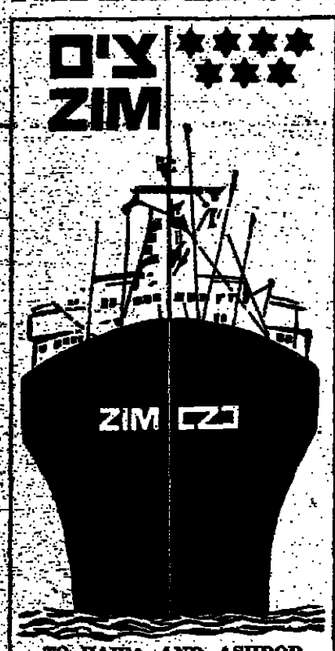
BAT-DOR changed its custom on Wednesday, giving three premieres at the Jerusalem Theatre instead of in their own Tel Aviv hall; but the dance company's personality remained the same. It was still a setting for Jeannette Ordman, carried aloft among the other performers, who are lesser in status, if not in ability. In fact, unlike their director-star, both Miriam Zamir and the new Anna Marie Tannenbaum combined a warm expressiveness with excellent technique, thus enlivening their every appearance. It was no accident that the whole company made its best impression in "Beyond the Mirror," the one piece from which Miss Ordman was absent. This was the only time the group established a sense of communication — both with the audience and with one another.

Manuel Alum's composition "Deadlines" (music by Bach), new to Bat-Dor, began almost as a satire of the company's set-up, as Jeannette Ordman dragged the other dancers in, then donned a fancy red dress to mug the part of an exhibitionist ballerina, while they milled around half-heartedly in the background. The middle part, featuring Anna Marie Tannenbaum, held a tender emotional exchange, between her and the group; and the finale included a gay gigue-like romp for everybody. While the programme told us that the subject of the piece was dances and their varying attitudes, I was disturbed by the lack of stylistic unity in "Deadlines."

The two premieres by company members were competent, but I believe they would have been better served as workshop pieces, with feed-back from viewers. Yehuda Maor's "Likrat" (to a Bartok score) presented one evocative image: the ensemble in a kneeling, pulsing hump, on which Miriam Zamir hovered. Otherwise, the movement structures were repetitive and the unisex opening and general content needed sharpening. There was little evidence in the movement patterns and group relationships of the stated theme of decision making. Igal Perry's "Beyond the Mirror" at least expressed its subject of "searching for myself." Too often, however, the electronic score built excitement or climax not seen in the movement, which tended towards a literal quality.

Gene Hill Sagan's vivid dance of war-broken bodies and mourners closed the programme with a moving experience — which would have been even more effective had someone not changed the ending to an up-beat, spectacular pose, out of key with the rest of the piece.

JOAN CASS



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THE JERUSALEM POST

Editor: Lea Ben Dor

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The personal equation

PRIME MINISTER RABIN is discovering that it is not a simple matter to streamline a cabinet despite the general agreement that changes are necessary. To put it very simply: everybody is willing enough to see the other man streamlined, but not himself.

The Labour Party is, as it happens, in a good position at the moment to ask for cooperation in such streamlining. Information Minister Yariv resigned — and one reason for his resignation doubtless was that he felt the present cabinet structure to be too clumsy to work satisfactorily — thereby freeing a place and ministry to which the Labour Party is entitled. In addition it has been decided, apparently, not to fill the other Labour vacancy, Communications, with a Labour man, but to offer it to the Independent Liberals in order to be able to reorganize the Tourism Ministry and find room for it within the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

The other proposal that has been aired is the inclusion of Welfare services within the Labour Ministry, which would correspond to contemporary views of the proper management of welfare.

These decisions look satisfactory enough on paper, but cannot easily survive once they are translated into the human and party equations involved. Mr. Moshe Kol has been Tourism Minister for a number of years; it is a ministry that is interesting and influential, and he is not in the least inclined to see his small kingdom rolled up and tucked into a corner of Commerce and Industry, even if tourism is at a low ebb at the moment, and perhaps because it is at a low ebb and will need imaginative nursing. And there is always the possibility that something so technical as Communications might go instead to his I.L.P. cabinet colleague, Mr. Gideon Hausner. Mr. Hausner, as Minister without Portfolio, has been working on plans for greater cabinet efficiency and it will be difficult for him to oppose the proposal, although it is not one he made himself.

Welfare, on the other hand, has traditionally been a stronghold of the National Religious Party. There is a widespread belief, whether justified or not, that religious clients are favoured there over others, and the amalgamation of the two ministries might make it easier to introduce needed changes of procedure. But in both cases there are indications of such strong coalition pressures that Mr. Rabin is likely to prefer to carry on according to the present arrangement rather than add to his problems.

Just where coalition politics takes us has been well illustrated during the past few days, by the NRP demand that Mr. Rabin include both Interior Minister Burg and Religious Affairs Minister Raphael in what had been intended as a small high-powered cabinet security committee able to work under emergency conditions — on the grounds that otherwise there would be a critical quarrel inside the NRP.

If there were no other reason for amending our election system, it would be necessary in order to end the day of coalition governments which do not enable prime ministers to choose the teams they want for the job.

Dry Bones

ISRAEL PRESS

MA'ARIV (independent) notes that the first reports about possible U.S. guarantees came from Kissinger's entourage, apparently as a smokescreen and a reaction to Israel's firm insistence on Egyptian undertakings in exchange for any significant further withdrawals in Sinai. "This American version presents American guarantees as a substitute for the commitments Israel is demanding of Egypt. However, the term 'U.S. guarantees' is meaningless until all its implications are spelled out."

Any commitment to military intervention in case Israel is attacked by Egypt would require approval of Congress and it would take a long time to get such approval, and even then it is far from a certainty. Any "guarantee" implying less than military intervention in case of need would be without any value... "It is hardly surprising that Kissinger himself made no mention of the idea of guarantees during his visit to Israel, and that when questioned subsequently. He was only prepared to say he was studying the idea."

HA'ARETZ (independent) doubts whether the U.S. at this point will in fact be willing to incorporate Israel in Nato or bind itself contractually to us in any other way. Any such commitment, moreover, would be conditional on an overall settlement with the Arabs which would require us to withdraw more or less to the borders of 1967.

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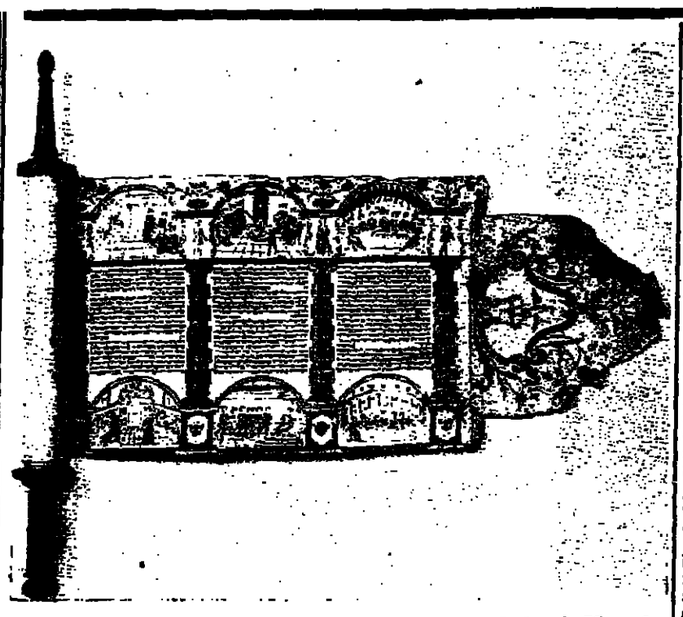

This illuminated parchment Scroll of Esther from Bohemia-Moravia, dating from the early 1700's, is now on display at The Collector gallery at the Jerusalem Hilton Hotel. The Michael Kaniel Megilla is being reproduced in facsimile by hand via the silk-screen process by The Collector in a limited, numbered edition. (Harris)

The lesson of Purim

"It is above all a story of the Jewish masses rising to the occasion, responding to Mordechai and Esther's call, and acting to avert the doom that Haman had schemed for them."

By Moshe Kohn

"IS IT REALLY Purim already?"

"I don't feel Purim in the air anywhere. Do you?!"

These are some of the remarks I have heard ever since we entered the Purim month of Adar on February 11, from people who are lost as to the Jewish calendar but very up-to-the-hour as to the news headlines. And every headline casts its pall on them.

Where, our headline addicts moan, oh where are the Mordechais to deliver us the way Mordechai of Shushan some 25 centuries ago, with the help of his cousin Esther, negotiated Exterminate-the-Jews Day into Haman-and-His-Ten-Sons Hanging Day by persuading the benign but foolish King Ahasuerus to issue an edict granting the Jews the right to defend themselves against their enemies?

It's never been so bad for the Jewish People, hoot the doomowls who do not have the headlines of the 5735.5 years of the Jewish calendar to give proper proportion to the last hour's headlines. Yea, yea, twit the woebirds, adding: And it's all our own fault — all the opportunities we deliberately missed. What opportunities? you ask. Hmph! pregnantly they retort, cowering behind King Doomowl's wings, and hawk-hawk-hawk! they hiccup in chorus as they point accusing beaks at you.

THE PURIM STORY, as told in the Book of Esther, is problematic for many modernists. Some, even Orthodox Jews feel uncomfortable about what they consider its revanchist spirit. Many, because of the lack of archaeological-documentary evidence to "authenticate" it, consider it a completely fictional concoction, or, at best, an ancient Jewish adaptation — around a grain of historical truth — of a more ancient Babylonian-Persian script for a spring-carnival pageant.

Revanchist spirit

But it was problematic already for the ancient Jewish sages, almost as soon as it was written. Some of them, too, were disturbed by its "revanchist" spirit. Many questioned whether it should be included in the Canon of the Sacred Scriptures, because it tells of no miracles such as those connected with the Passover story (or even as those connected with the non-Biblical Hanukka story); has no one praying or complaining to God in time of trouble or thanking Him after disaster has been averted; does not even once mention God's name.

Finally, the sages decided to canonize Esther, and even went so far as to declare that in Messiah-time, all the festivals will be abolished except Purim, and all the books of the Bible will be set aside except the Tora and Esther.

Why?

Because Purim is not merely the story it is of clever and timely politicking by Mordechai (whose name for a Jew in that place and time is the equivalent of, say, Henry for a contemporary American Jew or Bruno for an Austrian Jew) and Esther (also originally an "assimilationist" name). It is also — and above all — a story of the Jewish masses rising to the occasion, responding to Mordechai's and Esther's call, and acting to avert the doom that Haman had schemed for them (Esther 3:8-13).

Mordechai and Esther did what they did, and the Jewish masses followed their lead. As a result, it was Haman and his 10 henchmen-sons who swung from the gallows they had prepared for Mordechai, and it was the enemies of the Jews who were routed on the days when the Jews were to have been "destroyed, slain, and exterminated" (Esther 3:13).

We then read in Esther 9:27 that "because of all they had seen and experienced in this affair, the Jews resolved and undertook..." The Talmudic Sages come to their conclusion about Purim and the Book of Esther by means of the following interpretation of this passage:

Threat of genocide

At Mount Sinai our ancestors accepted the Tora and peoplehood only under a Divine threat of genocide — "God held the mountain over them and said: 'If you accept the Tora, well and good; if you don't, I will bury you under this mountain'." But under the impact of the Purim events, after delivering themselves from Haman's genocide scheme, our Book of Esther ancestors of their own free will affirmed and resolved what our Sinai ancestors had undertaken only under God's threat of genocide. (See Talmud Yerushalmi Megilla 1:5; Maimonides' Hilchot Megilla 11:18; Tractates Shabbat 88a and Shvuot 39a.)

Those to whom the "since-Creation" dates and events of the Jewish calendar do not come as a surprise have few problems with the dionysian gaiety recommended for Purim — or with the appolonian solemnity prescribed for Yom Kippur, the joy of Passover, the mourning of Tisha B'av. To them Purim is a paradigmatic tale of the Jews' lot in Exile, and generally of the Jews among the nations. It is different from some of our other tales in that it celebrates a victory over our enemies brought about by resourceful leadership and a closing of the ranks, followed by a reaffirmation of the national purpose.

Nothing that is happening to us as a people today or that has happened in recent years is reason not to celebrate that victory and learn its lessons.

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Congress—playing a far less passive role in U.S. foreign policy

By JOSEPH KRAFT

WASHINGTON. — HENRY KISSINGER returned from his latest trip bearing an agenda for diplomatic action that could lead to a triumphant retirement at the end of the year.

The Israelis are now making the kind of internal political noises which suggest readiness to withdraw from the oilfields and passes of the Sinai desert. It looks as though they can get in exchange demilitarization of the abandoned territory with a strengthened UN presence plus some easing of the economic blockade and a further acceptance by Egypt.

After that, the next move would be a return to the Geneva conference where Israel, the Arab states and the two superpowers would consider the more general aspects of a settlement. Everything suggests the conference will collapse in chaotic disagreement, at which point the Middle East would be temporarily shelved.

For the Russians, it became clear in Dr. Kissinger's recent meeting with Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko, are keenly interested in pursuing the diplomacy of detente. That means primarily fleshing out the general lines of agreement for another Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty reached between President Ford and General Secretary Leonid Brezhnev at Vladivostok last year.

It could also mean progress in mutual reduction of the troop contingents maintained by the two superpowers in Europe and, possibly, an agreement on a European Security and Cooperation Treaty (ESCT) formalizing the present territorial arrangements on the continent. What would presumably issue from those understandings would be a series of summit meetings, probably culminating in a visit by Mr. Brezhnev to the U.S. in early or late summer. The balance among the superpowers would then be stabilized anew by a Ford visit to China.

At that point — though many grave international problems remained — the legacy of President Nixon's diplomacy would have run out. Dr. Kissinger's service as Secretary of State would have reached a natural term.

The more so, given the political climate, in the wake of Watergate and Vietnam, the Congress has moved strongly to reassert privileges and prerogatives which were allowed to lapse in the post-war era. Inevitably Congress is now playing a far less passive role in foreign policy.

Sharp questions have been raised about detente, the energy problems, Southeast Asia, the Middle East and the Greek-Turkish quarrel. Because Dr. Kissinger has been so centrally involved in all these matters he has increasingly become a controversial figure. It used to be that only Sen. Henry Jackson of Washington would cross swords with Dr. Kissinger — and only on the issue of relations with Russia.

Now the Secretary of State is meeting across-the-board criticism from younger figures in the Congress. In the Senate, Adlai Stevenson III of Illinois, Lloyd Bentsen of Texas and Frank Church of Idaho have all questioned his policies. Three of the most able Democratic members of the House — John Brademas of Indiana, Paul Sarbanes of Maryland and Benjamin Rosenthal of New York — are waging a kind of guerrilla warfare with the Secretary on the Greek-Turkish issue. "He egotizes foreign policy," Mr. Brademas said of Secretary Kissinger the other day.

If he wanted to, Dr. Kissinger could probably re-establish his standing in the Congress. He is an overpowering advocate and has unsurpassed credit with the public. A few concessions would probably disarm most of the opposition.

But several signs show that Dr. Kissinger isn't likely to change his ways. Even as he was calling for a new partnership with the Congress early in the month, he went, as if it were perfectly appropriate, to visit the symbol of lying and defying the Congress — Richard Nixon. Instead of getting a man with Congressional backing as the special trade representative, he lets the White House foist upon him a nominee with no standing in either the Congress or the trade field — outgoing Deputy Attorney-General Laurence Silberman.

So when the political season hots up early next year, it is not unlikely that Dr. Kissinger might step down as Secretary of State. Already it is appropriate to begin thinking about possible replacements.

The obvious man is Elliot Richardson, the new Ambassador to Britain. He is a person of the highest abilities and with broad experience in every field of government. But Mr. Richardson has political problems, growing out of personal stiffness. These are accentuated among certain Republicans by his refusal to go along with the Watergate cover-up.

So another man has to be regarded as the favourite. He is also a figure with the broadest experience and high abilities. He happens to be very close to the President and at home in the Congress. He is former Secretary of Defence Melvin Laird.

READERS' LETTERS

What became of promise to clean T.A. cinemas?

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post

Sir, — What has happened to the promise to clean up Tel Aviv's cinemas? It was stated that no cinema that needed repairs, etc., would receive a new licence, but it seems that this warning is being neglected.

The Esther Cinema is still a disgrace to the city, with bad seating, many broken seats, dirt everywhere, no control on smoking or the eating of sunflower seeds. The Allenby is even worse. The Gordon has a lot of broken seats. The Ben-Yehuda has a very bad, leaking ceiling and hardly room for one's legs between the rows. The Tchelet is the worst of all — ice cold, hard wooden seats, and if one sits back hard enough, the whole row tilts backwards. The Dekel is only fit for the bottle-throwing youngsters who visit it.

The Peer I give credit to: it does try, but the Ophir is another disgusting, noisy, dirty cinema with no control to see that order is kept over the noisy crowd. The Paris is no better and I would give a sound warning to the rest of Tel Aviv's cinemas to improve their atmosphere a bit, like having some music before the film starts and a little fresh paint on the walls, before the prices go up again.

S. MAINFIELD

Tel Aviv, February 6.

'A snobbish assault' on theatre in the 'provinces'

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post

Sir, — Referring to Mendel Kohansky's review of the play, "The Return," this season's third offering of the Beersheba Theatre (February 7), I would like to register my anger at his insensitive put-down of Beersheba, its Beit Ha'am, the Theatre Company, and the theatre audience residing in the "provinces."

I have some quarrel with his artistic judgment of the play, but that, at least, is natural as reviews are merely subjective evaluations. Even so, his claim of finding confusion in the use of flashbacks found no echo here among my country-cousin friends questioned on this point. The cursory treatment afforded the actors, especially Sasi Sa'ad, who has repeatedly given outstanding performances, was again a mystery.

More serious was the snobbish assault on the "penury of the Beersheba Theatre" reaching all the way to the snack bar at Beit Ha'am. Perhaps Mr. Kohansky needs to be reminded that such conditions existed for years before the "opulence of Tel Aviv" became a reality. Over 1700 "well-behaved" ticket subscribers take turns crowding happily into each performance for what has become a vital cultural event in our city. If his critical reaction to our penury had concluded with a plea for support and appreciation for this fledgling, talented theatre company, it would have been a worthwhile and welcome call. Put merely to cite our "dreariness" as a cause for his continual shock leads one to question Mr. Kohansky's own materialistic values of which the play speaks so eloquently.

ANAT BAR-COHEN

Beersheba, February 12.

Mendel Kohansky comments:

My description of the shabbiness of Beit Ha'am was intended as criticism of those who dispense subsidy monies and allow the fledgling theatre to struggle so hard against financial limitations, while giving the metropolitan theatres the opportunity to indulge in luxuries.

As for my attitude towards the Beersheba Theatre, I am full of admiration for those who founded it and work in it, and I have stated that on various occasions. In my review of last year's theatrical season (September 20, 1974), I discussed the accomplishments of the new company, concluding that "It was the best theatre news in an otherwise not so happy year."

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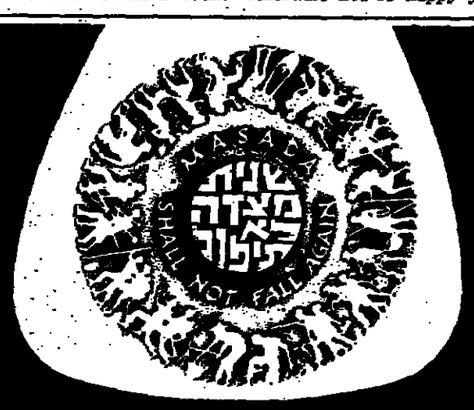

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